

Zoo where tigress killed two keepers took risks, Aspinall jury told

Coroners were told that "unfortunate risks" taken at Mr John Aspinall's zoo near Canterbury led to the deaths of two keepers who were mauled by a Siberian tigress, it was heard yesterday.

To care for the animals, the zoo was just overlooked by the deaths of two men.

In the first case of its kind, Aspinall's company, Howes and Port Lympne Estates, has two charges of failing to ensure the safety of its employees.

Mr Brian Stocks, aged 29, died of a tiger bite in hospital on August 21, 1980. Mr Robert Wilson, aged 28, was mauled in separate attacks on the tigress, Zeya, after they entered its enclosure at the zoo.

Mr Aspinall, aged 54, who is famous for wrestling his tigers, shot Zeya, which is 12 years old, after the incident a month later. The company is accused of allowing Mr Stocks to enter the enclosure alone when the tigress was there. The second charge alleges that Mr Wilson was permitted to enter an enclosure separated from Zeya's by a fence of inadequate design height.

Mr Stocks was attacked by Zeya while wearing a cub, and Mr Wilson was attacked after Zeya had been moved to an enclosure adjoining that of the cub.

Mr Reide said that zoo-keeping experience should have dictated that a keeper did not enter the big cats' enclosure alone. At Howes, as for as the big cats were concerned, there were no rules, either written or understood, he alleged.

After the death of Mr Stocks, Zeya should have been destroyed, Mr Reide told the court.

Mr Wilson died because Zeya scaled a separating fence 10ft 2in high in its enclosure to attack him. Although he was accompanied by other keepers, they were unable to beat the tigress off.

The fence, Mr Reide alleged, was too low for safety.

This particular tigress had built up a reputation of being difficult to handle and with the birth of its cub it became more aggressive and its attitude to the keepers changed, he said.

Mr Oliver Graham-Jones, a veterinary surgeon, told the court that Siberian tigers were the largest of their species, weighing up to 400 lb and measuring 10ft from nose to tail.

"It is recognized that in adversity, these animals are capable of profound feats of strength and aggression."

Mr Graham-Jones, who has written a guide for keepers who look after animals including big cats, said: "I believe an overhang at the top of a fence will prevent an animal crossing it. The lowest fence I have ever seen keeping an animal in is 12ft with an overhang above that."

Mr Graham-Jones continued: "There must have been some very important reason why Mr Stocks went into that cage alone. I have no idea what that reason could be. It would have been absolutely essential to obtain assistance and authority to enter the cage."

"If I was there and this happened and Mr Stocks had lived I would have reprimanded him at least."

The case continues today.

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Sounding off: Self-styled "Major General" Barry Nuttall, aged 34, commanding officer of the Allied Azis Society of Military enthusiasts, reviewing his "troops" before driving from Hull to London yesterday with a petition for the Prime Minister. He took a

700-signature petition complaining about the bull-dozing of his house and headquarters in what was Melbourne Grove, Hull, under an eviction and compulsory purchase order. He is now living under canvas.

Judge tells Adamson jury it must be certain of evidence

The jury hearing the trial of Mr Peter Adamson, the Coronation Street actor, at Burnley Crown Court was told by the judge yesterday that it had to try the case solely on the evidence and should ignore "emotions and suspicions".

Mr Adamson, aged 53, of Old Road, Bury, Greater Manchester, who plays Len Fairclough in the television serial, has pleaded not guilty to indecently assaulting two girls aged eight at Haslingden swimming baths last April.

Judge Lockett was speaking after counsel for the prosecution and the defence had completed their closing speeches. He will deal with Mr Adamson's evidence today and the jury is expected to consider its verdict later today.

The judge told the jury of eight men and four women: "Mr Adamson is your fellow man and he is entitled to demand of you to be treated as such and in no other way."

"You, members of the jury, in the very name of justice and fairness, must disregard what you know of his professional life save what I shall mention later and the publicity this case has attracted."

"I have put it as strongly as I can and I ask you to note my words carefully and seriously."

The judge said that everyone, including the defendant, had felt some sympathy for the little girls who had to give evidence.

He added: "I ask you to put away from your mind emotions and suspicions and try this case on the evidence. Emotions and suspicions will not help you one jot."

On the question of the evidence from police officers at the pool, the judge said: "The officers had denied comparing their recollections. It is a matter for you what you make of that."

The evidence was that there was no collaboration, but if the jury found the evidence was tainted then it must approach that evidence with the greatest possible caution.

"Only if you are satisfied that a witness is honest and correct should you give weight to their evidence", Judge Lockett said.

He said that if the jury was sure of Mr Adamson's guilt it could convict him.

"If you are sure he is innocent it follows that you must acquit him, but if you are not sure of his guilt, your duty is plain. Your duty is, you must acquit him."

On the question of indecent assault, he told the jury that to touch the girl indecently Mr Adamson would have to have a clear intention in so doing.

The judge told the jury that the prosecution case was that the incidents were "not an innocent escapade".

He said: "But that is a matter for you whether you draw that conclusion. You have to be sure weighing all the evidence up that it does drive you to that conclusion before you can draw it."

"I must give you a careful and clear direction and a serious warning. The evidence of the first girl is unsworn evidence and you have to decide what weight you would give to that evidence."

On the evidence of Det Con Maurice O'Neill, the judge referred to the incident when he and a policewoman said they saw Mr Adamson put his thumbs into a little girl's swimming costume.

"There have been minutes, say an hour, spent in this court considering that movement", the judge added.

This movement lasted 15 seconds at the most, and more probably 10 seconds, according to the evidence, the judge said. "This is a very short time. I ask you to bear that in mind."

"Anyone can put a nasty view on anything if they are so minded. The evidence points to the defendant playing and enjoying himself, and the children enjoying themselves."

Child rescued

Fabio Lambert, aged three, was rescued by firemen yesterday after he climbed 20ft scaffolding on a half-built house near his home in Clevedon, Bristol, and fell into a first floor room.

Man 5 days in car boot

By Our Staff Reporter

A postman was recovering in hospital yesterday after spending five days trapped in the boot of his car in north-east London.

Mr Jeffrey Pottle, aged 26, was released by a policeman who became suspicious about the car parked in a lay-by, Waltham Forest and opened the boot.

"He appears Mr Pottle climbing into the boot last Wednesday, closed the lid and could not get out," a police spokesman said. "We have no idea why he climbed in."

He added that while he was trapped, the car was broken into and a coat stolen. Thousands of

people are believed to have passed the vehicle which was parked near a popular spot for visitors to the forest.

Mr Pottle was described as being weak but able to stand after he was helped from the car. He was taken to St Margaret's Hospital, Epping, and then transferred to Claybury Psychiatric Hospital.

A colleague of Mr Pottle's at South Woodford post office said they had thought he was ill after he complained last Wednesday morning that he was feeling unwell and was going home.

Buttons ob for Will the Wisp tracker

By David Hewson

Mr Vac. The under-five's edition of the *Radio Times* quires an editor. Ability to write, type, and keep track of movements of Will o' the Wisp and Postman Pat distinct advantages.

The vacancy at the helm of *Will o' the Wisp* may not set Fleet Street alight, but it will be keenly watched by a section of the nation's middle-class mothers. Since the weekly magazine came into being a year ago, its circulation has risen to nearly 100,000 on the basis of accurate listings of when viewers can tune into the adventures of Morph, Leon Street, and other BBC children's programmes.

Lyn Williamson, the head editor, is returning to her native New Zealand, and chief, Mr Dennis Hooper, editorial director of Polytechnic Publications, hopes her replacement will be someone with a teaching background to ensure the magazine's educational aspects.

Mr Hooper becomes ruffled by the *Buttons* described a comic. Since *Polytechnic*, a British Electric Traction, already owns two real mics, he feels qualified to own the difference.

"The children's weekly market has not changed much 20 or 30 years, except that a lot of the stuff being produced is not as good as it was a," he said.

At 24p a copy, it is only a penny cheaper than the *Radio Times*, which includes the programme details in a glossy, less colourful form.

It is mostly written by people who produce the programmes for the BBC's children's programmes featured in its pages. In return, *Polytechnic* pays the BBC a fee for using programmes.

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40% of brides accept danger of divorce, survey shows

By David Nicholson-Lord

New evidence of the way divorce is eating into the fabric of British life comes today in a survey showing that more than 40 per cent of brides accept that their marriages may not last for ever. Fewer than a tenth will be virgins when they marry.

The findings emerge from a survey of *Wedding Day* magazine readers, largely youthful ingenues who might be expected to take a rosy and traditionalist view of matrimony.

Almost all are marrying for the first time, two-thirds still live with their parents and 92 per cent are having a white wedding. Yet 41 per cent accept the possibility that their marriages may not be permanent.

Important differences were also disclosed between the attitudes of virgins and non-virgins and the success of parents' marriages also coloured views.

Forty-two per cent of non-

virgins accept a possible marital break-up, as against 28 per cent of virgins. The figure was 39 per cent among those who consider the parents' marriage a success, compared with 59 per cent among those who regard parents' marriages as having failed.

There was, however, no difference in the expectation of break-up between those planning weddings in churches and in register offices. That is possibly because only 34 per cent were motivated by religious views in planning a white wedding. "Tradition" was cited by another 34 per cent, parental wishes by 10 per cent and other reasons by the remaining 22 per cent.

The survey was based on 645 *Wedding Day* brides-to-be, with an average age of 22, and the magazine is concerned to emphasize the more reassuring findings. In 88 per cent of the

impending marriages, the man proposed, and in 17 per cent of cases that took place either a romantic dinner or with the male on bended knee - the two most favoured situations.

Only a fifth of brides had been living with their grooms and the most popular reason for marriage, favoured by 42 per cent, was security and commitment. According to the magazine, the attitudes disclosed by the survey are surprisingly conservative and romantic.

Nevertheless 72 per cent are in favour of pre-marital sex, 15 per cent think it is up to the individuals and only 7 per cent are against it.

But most brides will be doing the traditional household chores: 78 per cent said they will be doing most of the cooking and 91 per cent the washing. Only 3 per cent of grooms will do most of the cooking.

Jail governor tells of threats to kill him

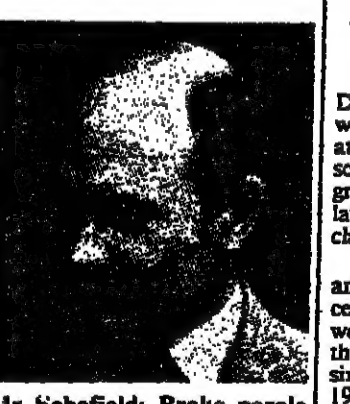
Mr Gerald Schofield, aged 42, assistant governor of Parkhurst Prison, told Isle of Wight magistrates yesterday that he was tied up and held hostage for 28 hours at the top-security jail by two prisoners, armed with knives, who threatened to kill him. The prisoners eventually gave themselves up and Mr Schofield was released unharmed.

The prisoners, John Thomas Bowden, aged 26, and James McCaig, aged 27, are charged with unlawfully imprisoning Mr Schofield and threatening to kill him.

Mr Graham Grant-Whyte for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said that during the period of negotiations Bowden set a deadline of two and a half hours, after which Mr Schofield would be killed.

Later the prisoners said that every half hour that elapsed after the deadline a wound would be inflicted on him. At one time Bowden called-out: "I am serving a life sentence with 25 years recommendation, so I have nothing to lose."

Mr Schofield said that after he had told McCaig his parole application had been rejected, McCaig returned to the governor's office while he was interviewing Bowden and



Mr Schofield: Broke parole news to prisoner.

pushed furniture against the door. "Bowden got up and took hold of me. I shouted no, no, don't be silly."

"They tied me hand and foot with strips of sheeting and put me in a corner. Next I remember Bowden phoning the *Daily Mirror* and having a conversation about prison service injustices, according to his point of view. He also phoned prison officials and told them if any attempt was made to break into the room I would be killed."

Mr Schofield agreed that he had talked about personal matters with the prisoners sometimes, about wives and families. The hearing continues today.

Cancer rate 'average' at nuclear site

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Deaths from cancer among workers at British Nuclear Fuels at Sellafield (formerly Windscale) in Cumbria, are no greater than among the population in general, the company claimed yesterday.

Conclusions are based on an analysis of recorded death certificates of 11,500 male workers and former workers at the waste nuclear fuel reprocessing plant between 1948 and 1980. In the period there were 400 deaths from cancer, and this Mr Peter Mummery, director of health and safety for the company said, was slightly lower than might be expected among such a group on the basis of national figures.

He said the small number of deaths from conditions such as leukaemia, bone and thyroid cancers and multiple myeloma, which were regarded as particularly susceptible to radiation, were also in line with the pattern of disease in the population in general.

Six cases in which compensation had been paid, totalling £200,000, were special circumstances. Although the cause of the cancer was not known conclusively, radiation at work was one probability.

enabling it to look as far east as Poland, from a flight path along the East-West frontier.

Security at the base, where 1,500 United States Air Force personnel are stationed, is handled by Ministry of Defence police, RAF police and United States field security police.

Seven women were taken to Newbury police station yesterday and charged with criminal damage. They were bailed to appear in court on August 18.

The MoD is clearly embarrassed about the daubing incident, which happened despite a tightening of security.

But it was pointed out in Whitehall that many more would be needed to guard every foot of the 9½-mile chain-link fence round the airfield. A much tougher line is expected once the first cruise missiles arrive.

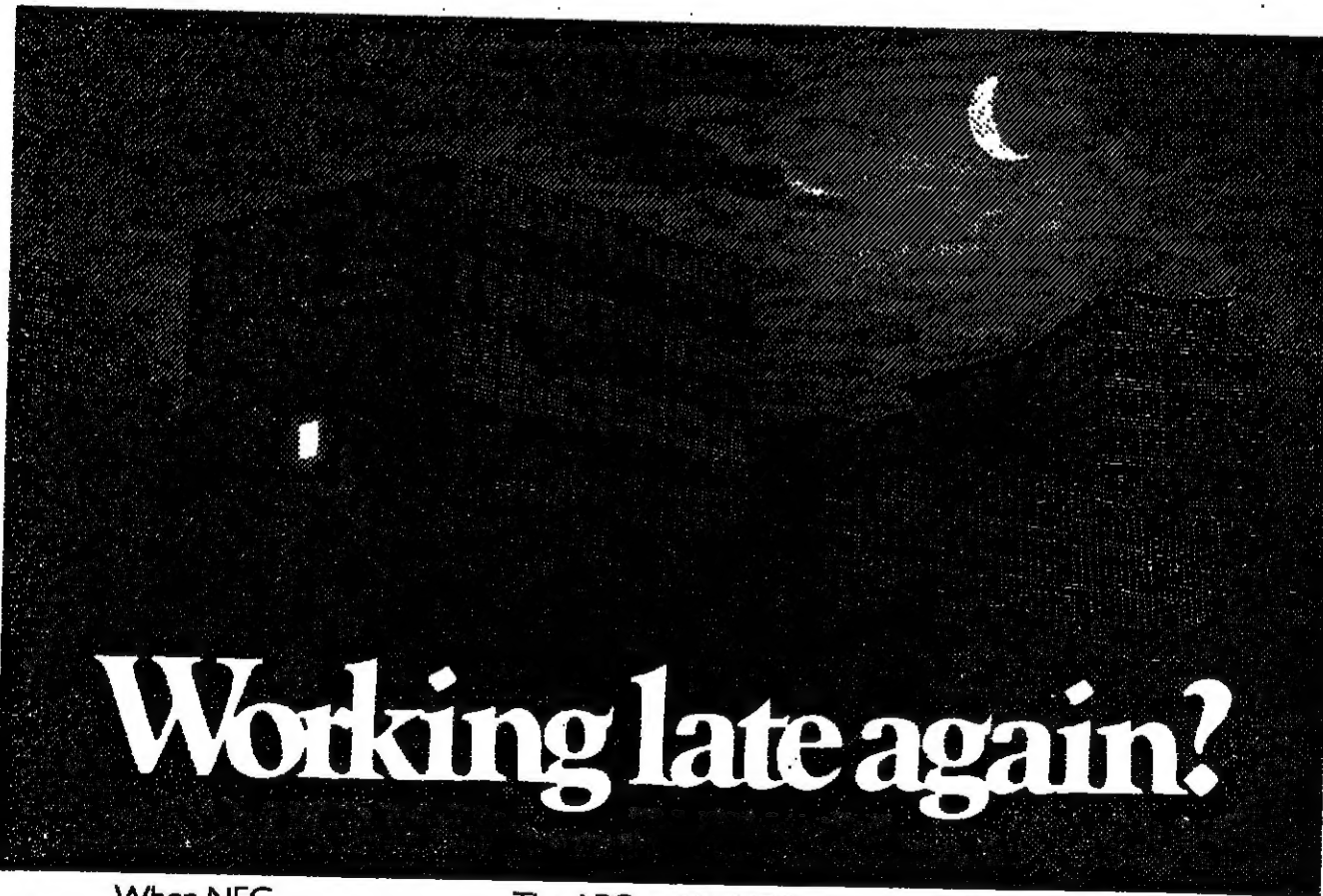
Greenham slogan raid embarrasses ministry

The RAF Ministry of Defence police have launched an investigation into security at the planned cruise missile base at Greenham Common, Berkshire, after anti-nuclear slogans were daubed on two American aircraft there early yesterday.

A top secret plane, the Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, and a KC-135 air-refueller were parked on the airfield after the weekend air show at Greenham Common. The perimeter wire was cut on the south side of the base where the first of 96 cruise missiles are due to become operational in December.

The concrete missile bunkers are in a special security zone protected by two tall wire fences, topped by barbed tape.

The Blackbird, normally based at RAF Alconbury, Cambridgeshire, is equipped with cameras and sensors

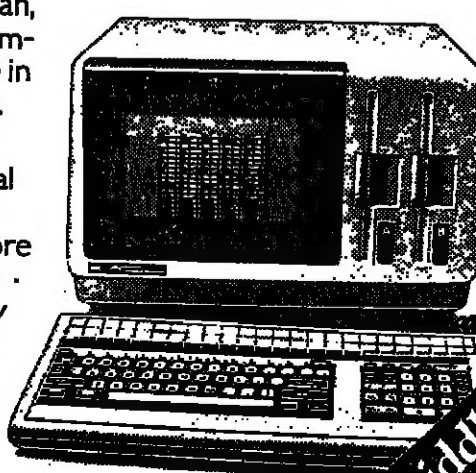


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Lawson forced to make statement on share sale

BP SHARES

Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced in the Commons that he intended to raise £500m by the sale of a further tranche of shares in BP.

Mr Lawson agreed to make an oral statement after protests during energy question time and later about his intention to make the announcement in a written reply.

The Government was accused of subterfuge and there were protests from Mr John Biffen, the Opposition spokesman on energy, and Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP. Eventually Mr John Biffen, the leader of the House, told MPs that Mr Lawson would make an oral statement after all.

After Mr Lawson had made his announcement, Mr Smith said: "It would have been better if he had made this oral statement in the first place rather than having to be dragged to the despatch box in order to give information which Parliament is entitled to receive."

Will he give an undertaking he will not embark any more sales of public assets without declaring that intention to the House so he can be questioned about the particulars of the sales and the technique to be adopted?

Will he also undertake that the forced sale of the Wyth Farm oil field and the British Gas Corporation assets in the North Sea will not be proceeded with until there has been a proper debate in this House?

Bearing in mind his lamentable record in the sale of Amerasia International and Britoil, what technique is to be adopted in the sale of BP shares which will avoid some of the disasters for which he has been responsible previously?

What possible justification is there for a national policy that whenever there is a public enterprise making a profit it has to be sold and the loss left with the taxpayer?

Mr Lawson: The only matter germane to the question is a courtesy to the House and on that I am very sensitive. There are precedents in this matter, there have been previous sales of BP shares.

After detailing a number of previous sales of the shares, he continued: "The previous sale was by a Labour Government. What happened on that occasion was there was a statement to the House by the then Chancellor of the Exchequer in which he reported to the agreement with the IMF which referred to the intention to sell some BP shares. No details were given."

The operation, which occurred in 1979, was an offer for sale and there was a written answer that day.

Mr Garry Walker (Keighley, C), who had asked for a written answer, said: "What he has said and what the Government is doing is no grand precedent but merely a repetition of what the Labour Government did. This has been a wild goose chase."

Mr Lawson: He is quite right. Dr David Owen (Plymouth, Devonport, SDP): The real precedents were in 1979 and 1977 and on both occasions the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced to the House the sale of substantial BP shares and it is this that has been about the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, and that is what the House has objected to.

What about the specific promise that he gave to the House on October 31 1979, when he elaborated on the terms of sale when he said the prospectus would reveal that the Government did not intend to sell any more of their present holding in the company?

What about the further assurance he gave to the House on March 12 1980 when asked for a reaffirmation of the undertaking in the prospectus when he said that there was no intention in the foreseeable future of selling any more of the Government's shareholdings? If the forecasted future is from March 1980 until now, he has some explaining to do.

Has the financial situation since the election so deteriorated that the Government now has to go back on the prospectus and the commitment it made in it?

Mr Lawson: I can assure him that what I have now said is fully consistent with the undertaking given in the prospectus. If he doubts my word he can consult any reputable lawyer. Could he have foreseen in 1979 that he would not have been a member of the Labour Party?

Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab): Was the suggested sale of Britoil circumvented in Cabinet by the New Secretary of State for Energy persuading his colleagues that this would be folly?

Mr Lawson: Sale of Britoil shares, as with sale of BP shares, is not a matter of any significance. Energy as both lots of shares are held by the Treasury and is my responsibility as Chancellor.

Mr Anthony Beaumont-Dark (Birmingham, Selby, C): It is a curious argument that governments need to own great national assets for the public. It is better to sell these assets and ensure that one does not have to keep spending public expenditure to the extent that damages public services or to increase income tax which damages other companies.

It is better to sell sensibly to raise capital that long term strategy is not damaged.

Mr Lawson: I agree. During questions to Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, earlier in the day, Mr John Evans (St Helens North, Lab) asked Mr Walker to deny the front page story in *The Times* that the Chancellor was about to finance further sales of publicly-owned assets.

To sell off public assets such as British Petroleum and Britoil would be a monumental folly, he said.

Mr Walker: I do not agree. Already the majority of BP is owned by the private sector. The Chancellor will make his announcement at the appropriate time.

Dr Owen: Were the Government to sell off BP shares it has a duty to the taxpayer at least to sell only when it can maximize the taxpayer's return. There could not be a more unfortunate time than now for the Government to do this.

Mr Walker said the judgment as to how and when to sell was a matter for the Government, which would have to defend it.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield North, C): Will he go further than simply consider the sale of BP shares and consider introduction of private capital into British Gas and the electricity supply industry?

Mr Walker: The Government made clear in its election manifesto that it was interested in seeing what areas of the public sector it could sensibly and rationally see moved from the public sector to the private sector. These examinations are taking place now.

Mr Allen Rogers (Rhondda, Lab): This dogmatic policy of returning our natural energy resources to private industry is a disaster course and likely to lead to a situation like that immediately after the First World War when a royal commission said that such resources were too important to be left to private greed and speculation.



Lawson: There are precedents



Smith: Lamentable record

use a subterfuge to declare its policy and then scurry off for the recess without proper opportunity for debate.

Mr Walker: No. Dr Owen on a point of order: It is normal practice for oral questions to take precedence over written questions which come within his own responsibility, such as those about BP and gas and oil assets, with the caveat that the Chancellor will make a written answer which has clearly been put down with the understanding, to put it no higher, of the Government.

Will the Chair rule on the matter? Mr Smith supported Dr Owen's point of order but the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) said he was not responsible for answers by ministers, nor could he anticipate the content of the written answer.

Mr Timothy Eggar (Enfield North, C) asked Mr Walker when he expected to dispose of the British Gas Corporation's offshore oil interests.

Mr Walker: I hope to complete the disposal of BGC's offshore oil interests as soon as possible.

Mr Eggar: Would he confirm that he has no intention of letting the sale of offshore oil interests take place in the manner in which over the period I have been responsible progress has been made where both offshore and onshore disposal are concerned?

Mr Walker: Yes, I confirm the latter point. I have no complaint about the manner in which over the period I have been responsible progress has been made where both offshore and onshore disposal are concerned.

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MPs on why they should not take a holiday

SUMMER RECESS

The House should not disperse for the summer recess until it had heard something from ministers about their attitude to a new, steady and solid organization called the Association of London Authorities.

Mr Geoffrey Henshaw (Hampstead and Highgate, C) said during a debate on the motion for the summer adjournment.

The association was a body being set up at the expense of London ratepayers to change the rules of the game. Ministers would be asked to treat it as a proper body that should have consultation. They should not fall into that trap. It ought not to require much time to give the sort of answer which the association's request for recognition demanded.

Mr Henshaw said that ministers will say before the recess that they will totally disregard the Association of London Authorities for all purposes and will not recognize it as anything other than a front organization for the Labour Party.

Mr Frank Cook (Stockton North, Lab) in a maiden speech, said unemployment in his constituency was over 23 per cent at the time of the last statistical publication. There were some areas in Cleveland with male adult unemployment exceeding 60 per cent.

It was little wonder that Mrs Thatcher chose to avoid the north east in her recent campaign itinerary. They were constantly reminded of the need for harder work, more efficiency, higher productivity and more effort.

Yet MPs were being asked, with constituencies like Cleveland, to consider a 12 week recess. Such a request was unwelcome, heartless and callous, but sadly it was to be expected.

Sir Paul Hawkins (Norfolk South West, C) said if Conservatives were honest, they won the election so overwhelmingly because the Labour Party was completely out of touch with the average voter. He was determined to see that this Government was not out of touch by the time of the next election.

The House of Commons has denied election the weapon of capital punishment that they wanted in the fight against violent crime. He wanted an assurance that there would be no other deterrents against violent crime.

He personally did not like the thought of 15 to 20 years imprisonment. When you have been behind bars for five years you are a changed man. As any human being could spend. But if the public was to be protected then this would have to be done.

He wanted an assurance from the Government that it did not accept people should go without work for large slices of their life and the Government was working all out to create jobs for the unemployed.

The Government must make it quite clear to the public beyond possible doubt that it was not determined to defend the country

but were also prepared to strive just as hard for peace.

Mr Alfred Morris (Manchester, Wythenshawe, Lab) said he wanted an end to the cruel way in which the new youth training scheme discriminated against disabled young people. *The Times* on July 5 Sir Terence Beckett (Director General of the CBI) had painted a glowing picture of the scheme, but the view of disabled young people and their parents was not so approving.

Mr Francis Montgomery (Aldershot and Sale, C) called on the Government to grasp the nettle of giving postal votes to people on holiday during a general election and said the Government should say when it was going to put right this wrong. He also wanted a fairer system of rating.

They could look more at private enterprise because greater use of private enterprise could lead to substantial savings for ratepayers without a reduction in services.

Now that they were assured of another five years of Conservative Government, he hoped that the Prime Minister would look again at the rates problem.

Mr Donald Coleman (North, Lab) said that the problems of South Wales must not be ignored by the House nor by the Government. The miners of South Wales were not beat on the destruction of the industry, but on its success and prosperity.

They were saying that the Government should get off their backs and allow the miners and the coal board to get on with the business of mining.

Ministers should forget ideology and realize that the mines were not suitable candidates for privatization.

The railways board should be given funds to increase efficiency and the crackpot ideas like those in the Serpell report should not be implemented.

Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke on Trent South, Lab) made a series of proposals and when he called the horrifying conditions being suffered by the mentally handicapped in long-term institutions.

He said the Government had attacked the national health service and failed to deal with the scandalous and atrocious conditions that these people had to live in.

It seemed the Government wished to keep the treatment of the mentally handicapped a secret because these conditions had been kept under wraps except when there had been leaks to newspapers.

There had been 18 reports from the development team and 17 of these had been kept confidential. They covered seven years, 50 hospitals and 30 homes.

Some things were beyond belief. The situation was patchy in different parts of the country but some of these mentally handicapped people lived in squalor. Some were denied ordinary toilet facilities. Others had no privacy and were grossly neglected. There were five

risks and some people also suffered cruelty.

Health authorities insisted that the facts were made known to them alone.

The development team (he said) is a shoddy watchdog. It can neither make public the facts it discovers, nor can it go to any region or hospital except by invitation of the health authority.

How is that for a watchdog? The watchdog should be the mentally handicapped? We all know the hospitals will be put in order temporarily and dirt will be swept under the carpet by the authority.

Allegations of cruelty should be investigated. But he did echo some praise by the team for nurses. He had a plan of action. First, there should be an independent public inquiry into all the development team's reports and the responses by the health authorities. Families were anxious. The public was concerned.

Secondly, there should be a special ombudsman for the mentally handicapped. This would deter maladministration.

Thirdly, the development team should be free to go wherever it liked at any time, without notice. Its reports should be made public.

Fourthly, transfer from institutions should be accelerated but not made without proper resources for those living in the community.

There are glaring injustices (he said) and must be met. A party matter because no government has solved this problem. But this Government is exceptional. It is a government of sacrifice and selflessness.

Mr Robert MacCrie (Brentwood and Ouse, C) drew attention to the growing problem experienced by people who changed jobs and experienced loss of pension because of this.

At a time of high unemployment, he said, it was essential to have maximum mobility of labour so that people could take advantage of a job offer no matter where it existed. But people were being penalized; in nine out of ten cases job changes led their pension expectations reduced.

I detect (he said) growing resentment by many people. But solving the problem was not

certain lack of demand for certain forms of fuel.

Unemployed meters cause concern

The Government is to press British Gas over the problem of long delays in reading and emptying gas meters. MPs expressed concern during Energy questions in the Commons that the accumulation of money in unemployed meters increased the risk of breakdowns.

Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary of State for Energy said he would draw the matter to the attention of the chairman of British Gas.

Mr Doug Hoyle (Warrington North, Lab) said: Meters are not being read and slot meters are not being emptied. This is causing great indignation. Many people with slot meters are afraid to go out in case they are broken into.

Mr Shaw: The problem is greater in specific areas than in others. He said earlier that 1,588 meter readers were employed in the gas industry on March 31, 1983. At the same date in

easy. With Government backing the pensions interests, the insurance companies and pension funds, should be able to balance between job leavers and the stayers through a voluntary clearing house through whose mechanism the pension entitlement could be easily and swiftly transferred. That would require underpinning of minimum pension rights by legislation and campaign of awareness.

But nothing was for nothing. Employers, leavers and stayers must contribute to help the change. But if the pensions interests were unwilling or unable to embark on a solution, the Government must think again about the need to undertake this difficult task.

Fresh studies on inland waterways

The Government hoped to commission fresh studies into the question of freight traffic on the inland waterways from which it would be able to see changes in trends and amounts of traffic. Lord Lucas of Chilworth, a Government spokesman, told the House of Lords during a debate on the development of the waterways.

Lord Lucas said the Government's general policy was that there had to be fair competition between alternative modes of freight transport. The customer determined the mode of transport he chose. It was the customer who at the end of the day made the decision about the price.

One had to accept the fact that freight traffic on the inland waterways was only a small share of all freight traffic and most of that was within the private sectors of operation.

The Government hoped to commission further studies into the question but meanwhile it would not block any reasonable attempt to attract more freight on to the waterways.

Studies had shown that every ton carried on British Waterways was subsidized by the taxpayer by £2.11. The debate was concluded.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Motions on rate support grant supplementary reports for England and for Wales. Mr. John Biffen (Selby, C) will move a motion on ministerial and other salaries orders. Lords (2.30): Finance Bill, second reading and remaining stages. Debate on the future of the South London Hospital for Women.

Pressure for refund will be maintained

EEC BUDGET

The Government was urged to stand firm in seeking full payment of the EEC budget refund when Mr Nicholas Ridley, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, reported to the Commons on the EEC Budget Council in Brussels last week.

Mr Ridley said that the United Kingdom was left with a shortfall of about 100m European currency units (£28m gross) or 75m net (£43m net), from the agreed refund of £150m contribution.

Mr Jack Shaw, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said that Mr Ridley had presented a sad and sorry tale of the Government's performance which was a far cry from the Prime Minister's promise after the Stuttgart summit.

He said that Mr Ridley had been quoted in *The Times* as saying they had lost a battle but not the war. What weapons would he use in that

war to get the full contribution refund?

The reason (he said) he has suffered such a further humiliation in a long round of humiliations is that other Common Market ministers have the measure of him and the Prime Minister are full of sound advice and are determined to wound but not to bleed.

Mr Ridley: That comes ill from Mr Straw and the Labour Party. Our Common Market partners got the measure of the previous Government and did not give them one cent back.

He said that next year there could be no question of increasing agricultural spending because the ceiling was reached in this year's budget. That gave the Government a real weapon.

This was the first stage of the budgetary process. There would be ample opportunities for British ministers to press the case and do all they could to make the Community live up to its undertakings and obligations. They would do that.

Peers to get higher expense allowance

HOUSE OF LORDS

Proposals to increase peers' expense allowances and to give effect to ministerial salary increases of 4.7 per cent for ministers of state and 3.4 per cent for parliamentary secretaries were introduced by Viscount Whitelaw, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House, and approved without discussion in the House of Lords.

Under the proposals, recommended by the Review Body on Peers Expenses, the limit on Lords day subsistence and incidental travel expenses for each day of attendance from £25.40 to £40; secretarial allowances from £11 to £17; and officeholders' annual secretarial allowance from £1,300 to £2,000.

● The Opticians Act 1958 (Amendment) Bill was introduced and read a first time in the Lords.

Coal to stay main energy source

ENERGY

Coal will continue to be the major source of fuel at least to the end of the century, Mr Giles Shaw, Under Secretary of State for Energy, said during question time in the Commons.

In answer to Mr David Knox (Staffordshire, Moorlands, C) he said that in 1974 coal generated 56 per cent of the United Kingdom public electricity supply and by 1982 had risen to 74 per cent.

Mr Knox: These figures show a very satisfactory progress since 1974. Is there likely to be any significant change in the figures for fuels in the next few years?

Mr Shaw: Coal will continue to be the major source of fuel at least to the end of the century. Future figures depend on the competitive nature of the fuel in question.

Alert for escaped tarantulas

Police in Hull yesterday warned residents to be on the lookout for five dangerous tarantula spiders which vanished from the home of Mr Terence Meads in Cardale Avenue, Hull, on Sunday. He kept them as pets.

The spiders escaped from a shed after a burglary and a fire, believed to have been started deliberately.

Anyone seeing the spiders, which are three in, across, hairy and grey, orange and black, was urged not to approach them unless they could be easily trapped. Hull police said yesterday that they were extremely dangerous.

Journalist is found hanged

Mr Len Doherty, an award-winning journalist and author, has been found hanged in the garage of his home in Hurfield Drive, Gleadless, Sheffield, on his 53rd birthday.

He had been due to return to his job on the *Sheffield Star* after a 13-year battle against the physical and emotional damage caused by a terrorist grenade at Munich airport in 1970.

Beer prices up

Ansell's Brewery increased beer prices by between 1p and 3p a pint in hundreds of public houses in Stoke-on-Trent, Birmingham, Coventry and Black Country areas yesterday.

Iraqis charged

Five Iraqi students were remanded on bail for 10 weeks by Cardiff magistrates yesterday charged with causing an affray outside University College, Cardiff, on Sunday.

Shaw: Unfortunate incident at Selby

Lab: We have coal for the power stations standing partially unused because of the lack of energy demand as a result of the economic recession triggered by the policies of the Conservative Government.

Mr Shaw: Given the state of the energy demand there will be a

knows the size of the stocks available.

Mr Alex Eastle, an Opposition spokesman on energy at Oldham, said: "There is great concern that in a project costing £1,000m, blessed with mining expertise and modern technology, flooding of this nature could take place. They should be an investigation by HM Inspectorate of mining engineers and geologists to find out whether or not it is going to be safe in this condition."

Mr Shaw: The incident is most unfortunate but this is primarily a matter for the National Coal Board and the board issued a statement this afternoon throwing more informative light on this.

Mr Trevor Street (North Bedfordshire, C): How are power stations to be kept running? They cannot do it. What long-term effect will this have on the mine and how is it that this problem suddenly occurred?

Mr Shaw: This is a matter for the coal board to assess and not me. The first assessment suggests the situation is not serious. Why there should be a delay in the report on the second faces at Wistow colliery.

As for power station supplies, he

knows the size of the stocks available.

Mr Alex Eastle, an Opposition spokesman on energy at Oldham, said: "There is great concern that in a project costing £1,000m, blessed with mining expertise and modern technology, flooding of this nature could take place. They should be an investigation by HM Inspectorate of mining engineers and geologists to find out whether or not it is going to be safe in this condition."

Whitehall brief

The efficiency unit changes gear

By Peter Hennessy

This is a half and farewell week in Whitehall. Yesterday the Rayner efficiency unit acquired a new management and came under the direct control of the Prime Minister.

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Cheysson to hear Cuban views while on Latin American tour

From Diana Geddes, Paris

M Claude Cheysson, the French Foreign Minister, left Paris late last night for what is described officially as a two-week "voyage of rediscovery" to Central and Latin American countries, including Colombia, a member of the Contadora Group, and Cuba, which has not been visited by a French Foreign Minister since the Castro revolution in 1959.

M Cheysson's visit, which was arranged several months ago, comes at a time of sharply mounting tension in Central America. It will be the first time that he has visited the area since he accompanied President Mitterrand on an official visit to Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica in August, 1981. This time he is due to visit Brazil, the biggest and most powerful Latin American country, from July 26 to 30. Bolivia, the only Latin American country with a democratically elected Socialist government, from July 30 to August 2. Colombia, which has always had close ties with France, from August 2 to 4, and Cuba, which has a special importance in the present Central American conflict, from August 4 to 6.

M Cheysson's visit to Colombia will come immediately after the visit by Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy to Central America, who is currently in the middle of a week's trip to all four Contadora Group countries to discuss the "Declaration for peace in Central America" issued by the four presidents in Cancun on July 17.

The critical situation in Central America will also feature prominently in M Cheysson's talks with the Colombian government with which France's traditionally harmonious relations became somewhat strained after France's decision to sign an arms contract with Nicaragua in December 1981.

No "offensive material" was included in the contract, but France's gesture of support for the left-wing Sandinista government was nevertheless fiercely criticized by several countries, including the United States. Two ferry boats were delivered to Nicaragua within the last few weeks as part of that contract. There is no question of any new arms contract at present, but France continues to maintain friendly relations with the Nicaraguan government.

An official French delegation visited Managua last week, to take part in the annual talks provided for under an agreement for economic, cultural and scientific cooperation, signed in 1982. The delegation was due to have been headed by M Christian Nucci, Minister for Overseas Development and Cooperation, but he was ill.

In Brazil, where there has recently been a clear movement towards greater democracy, France hopes to extend its existing economic cultural ties to include closer political links.

In Bolivia, one of the poorest Latin American countries to whom France owes a debt of gratitude for having expelled Klaus Barbie, the former SS officer now awaiting trial in Lille, accused of crimes against humanity, M Cheysson hopes to bring France's support to a still fragile fledgling Socialist government. The question of financial aid is expected to be at the top of the agenda.

Cuba is expected to be the most difficult stage of M Cheysson's tour.

Managua warns US of 'apocalypse'

Managua (AFP) - Señor Tomas Borge, the Nicaraguan Interior Minister, has warned the United States of an "apocalypse" in Central America if the Reagan Administration failed to act "with prudence and wisdom" in the area.

Speaking at a ceremony on Sunday night marking the 300th anniversary of the birth of South America's great liberator, Simon Bolivar, Señor Borge said the dispatch of an American fleet to Nicaraguan waters as part of six months of joint manoeuvres with Honduras threatened not only Nicaragua but all Latin American nations.

He also attacked what he called Washington's "policy of symmetry" in comparing guerrilla activity in El Salvador with "counter-revolution" in Nicaragua.

There was no comparison whatsoever between the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) in El Salvador and former National Guardsmen of the ousted Nicaraguan dictator Anastasio Somoza who were guilty of "aggression" against the Managua regime, he said.

● **SAN JOSE:** Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy to Central America,

appears to have failed a second time to meet Salvadoran insurgent leaders (Martha Honey writes).

After a weekend of confusion and secrecy, official sources close to Mr Stone in Panama said that he spent the weekend "on the beach" and had not met the leaders of the FMLN.

An official US announcement late on Friday saying that Mr Stone would be at an undisclosed location all weekend led to speculation that he was engaged in or preparing for a meeting with Salvadoran guerrillas either in Panama or Costa Rica.

A scheduled meeting in Costa Rica between Mr Stone and the FMLN fell through at the last minute earlier this month.

● **SAN SALVADOR:** Eighty civilians were murdered in El Salvador last week, 32 of them by unidentified paramilitary squads, Mr Gregorio Rosa, the Auxiliary Archbishop of San Salvador, said here on Sunday.

In his weekly sermon, he asked the Government to stop "violations" of people's homes which he said were carried out at night by armed men dressed in civilian clothes.

Nurse jailed for murder freed because of cancer

Delhi (AFP) - A former Canadian nurse serving a life term for murder here has flown home after the Supreme Court granted her a one-year release for treatment of advanced ovarian cancer, reliable sources said yesterday.

Marie Andrée Leclerc, aged 37, convicted with a Frenchman for the murder of an Israeli tourist in 1976, left for Levis, Quebec, over the weekend.

Miss Leclerc was set free by the Supreme Court last Thursday after an Indian medical expert confirmed she was suffering from cancer of the ovary in the secondary stage.

Announcing the move, the judge said: "She was punished with imprisonment for life by the courts; but nature has

punished her more severely." There was no cure for cancer at this stage, he said, and even the best treatment in India would only prolong her agony.

Her release was based on the condition that she promised to return to India within a year after her departure and that she report to the Indian High Commission in Canada every three months.

The court also ordered that a sum of \$10,000 (about £10,000) be paid up by two Canadian missionaries in India, for the cost of her return after a year.

Both she and her French accomplice, Charles Gurmukh Sobhraj, have other cases of cheating, forgery and abetting murder pending against them.

EEC clash on herring quotas

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Highly controversial new figures for dividing up the herring in the North Sea were put before EEC fisheries ministers when they began a two-day meeting in Brussels yesterday. They offered Britain and Denmark scarcely half the tonnage each was seeking and all but wiped out the amount for Belgium.

The figures were worked out over the past 10 days by a group of experts drawn from each member state. But even the basis chosen for calculating the figures was contested hotly by ministers from many countries when the meeting began.

Fixing the herring catch has become the key to agreement on quotas for all fish in Community waters this year. The failure to reach a compromise has meant there is now a total ban on herring fishing in the North Sea, which in turn means that Norway - which is affected by the ban - is considering excluding EEC boats from its waters.

The figures put to ministers yesterday would give Britain only 23.23 per cent of the catch, compared with the 35 per cent it was seeking and the 28.11 per cent it was offered at the beginning of the month. Denmark, on the other hand, is being offered 22.11 per cent compared with 9 per cent at the start of the month. But this falls far short of the 40 per cent it has been demanding.

Australia accuses six of plot

Melbourne (AFP) - Six alleged mercenaries are to be prosecuted on charges of plotting to overthrow the government of the Comoros Islands in the Indian Ocean, it was announced yesterday.

The decision of Senator Gareth Evans, the Australian Attorney-General, was announced when three of the men appeared in a Magistrate's court charged with breaches of the Foreign Incursions Act.

Mr William Lugg, Mr Dieter Burjevic and Mr John Meyer were arrested on board the yacht Sinbad in Portland harbour on Australia's southern coast in March.

The federal police said that the men were planning to sail to Reunion island in the Indian Ocean, where they would pick up weapons, explosives and troops. They would then sail to Grande Comore, the biggest of the Comoros Islands, and attempt to overthrow the Government of Mr Ahmed Abdallah.

Three other men have been charged in Australia with taking part in the alleged coup. Mr John Pilgrimage, a British citizen and unemployed merchant seaman, was due to appear in court in Perth later yesterday while Mr Edward Greengrove and Mr Frederick Patrick had already been released by magistrates in Perth, who ruled that the Attorney-General has delayed too long in deciding to prosecute. They will now be charged again.

Iran digs in 'nine miles inside Iraq'

Tehran (Reuters) - An Iranian offensive into mountainous northern Iraq entered its third day yesterday with Iran claiming it had consolidated positions up to nine miles inside enemy territory.

Military analysts in London said Iran's offensive appeared limited in scope, in line with Tehran's declared policy of waging a war of attrition rather than seeking outright battlefield victory.

Iran's apparent aim, one said, was to keep Iraq on a war footing, maintaining pressure on the Iraqi economy and thus to grind Baghdad to an economic standstill and bring down the Government of President Saddam Hussein.

Diplomats said the new bout of fighting also appeared linked as much to Iran's long-running conflict with Kurdish tribal rebels as to the war with Iraq.



Map showing the border region between Iran and Iraq, highlighting the area of conflict near the city of Basra.

Gemayel presses for a referendum

From Our Own Correspondent, Paris

President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon yesterday renewed his call for a referendum, under the auspices of the United Nations, to determine the views of Lebanese in the Israeli and Syrian-occupied zones towards the "legitimacy" of his Government.

He was speaking during a meeting at the Elysée Palace with President Mitterrand. He was on his way home from the United States.

"In those parts of the country where the Lebanese Army is, freedom and democracy are assured 100 per cent", Mr Gemayel said after the meeting, which was held at his request. "In those parts which are under foreign occupation, there is repression and the gagging of all national voices." Mr Gemayel first called for a referendum in the occupied zones soon after his election in September.

The question of an increase in the multinational peace-keeping force, to which France has contributed 2,000 men, had not been brought up as such during his conversation with Mr Mitterrand, he said.

While a sudden downpour outside the colonnaded Parliament House drenched latecomers, members inside managed to raise all current matters of dispute between the Government and the Opposition in the course of the first few hours of the sitting. This was despite the fact that the lower house, was adjourned without conducting any business save the swearing in of new members and the paying of tributes to a former Speaker who has just died.

While a new National Conference member from Jammu and Kashmir was called to be sworn in, a



Making the best of it: Life goes on for Beirut's citizens, regardless of fighting in the mountains, shelling of the city and almost daily car bombs. Damaged buildings can be seen behind the beach.

Israel rules out building of 'Maginot line' in Lebanon

From Robert Fisk, Bissri, southern Lebanon

The River Awali, Israel's new defensive line in southern Lebanon, is scarcely a river at all, hardly even a stream but more a trickle of water that meanders over pebbles through a narrow gorge just south of the Chouf mountains. Despite their impending withdrawal to the river, the Israelis have not even begun to prepare military positions along the southern bank and Israeli officers now insist they will permit all civilians free passage across the river.

"It is not our intention to cut Lebanon in half" an Israeli major said yesterday as he stood on the Bissri Bridge, where the Awali runs down to the Mediterranean north of Sidon. "We are not building an electrified fence and we are not going to construct some sort of Maginot line. We can't possibly prevent all infiltration across the river but we can reduce it. The main thing is for us to get out of the Chouf mountains."

The continued absence of any military preparations here - the Israelis have yet to start up in the hills south of the Awali -

suggests that Israel's partial withdrawal from the Chouf may be postponed for another month or two.

Israeli troops and militiamen from Major Haddad's private army are expected to man checkpoints at three strategic bridges on a line along the Awali: a concrete highway bridge just north of Sidon, the low "ford" bridge at Bissri, and a crossing point near Barouk.

The new Israeli front line will apparently run along the Awali and on into the Bissri and Barouk rivers - both continuations of the Awali - up to the valley below Ain Zhalta, where the Israeli and Syrian armies face each other.

"Erecting an electrified fence would be far too costly," the Israeli major said yesterday. "We want peace with Lebanon and we don't want draconian measures like cutting the south off from the north of the country. Three thousands cars cross the Awali every day; we can't possibly stop them all."

Whether such aspirations can be maintained once the new front line has been set up is

another question. Already there is evidence that guerrillas are taking weapons and ammunition south of Awali to avoid the expected increase in Israeli security along the line of the river. United Nations troops in southern Lebanon are now uncovering a large number of arms caches apparently hidden in preparation for the Israeli withdrawal.

While Israeli troops will be able to look down into the valley of the Awali from conveniently high mountains, the river is fordable at almost any point. Indeed at midday yesterday, the water at the Bissri bridge in the centre of the river while washing their family car.

If the scale of guerrilla ambushes does not decrease once the Israelis pull back, then new measures - including an electrified fence - will no doubt be considered again.

In fact, the Chouf mountains are still so near to the Awali that the anarchy from which the Israeli Army is trying to escape could yet spill across the river.

Shimon Peres, page 10

Lively debate expected at church council

From John Best, Ottawa

Nearly 4,000 world Christian leaders have gathered in Vancouver for a wide-ranging assembly of the World Council of Churches that could prove to be a highly provocative gathering.

Subjects from nuclear disarmament to Christian unity will be discussed at the three-week meeting, which was opened officially on Sunday by Edward Schreyer, the Canadian Governor-General.

The Council, representing 300 Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches with about 450 million members, has been condemned by some critics in recent years.

Five years ago it donated \$35,000 (£36,000) to a Zimbabwean liberation group and two years ago it gave \$125,000 to the South-West Africa People's Organization (Swapo).

Reagan woos blacks for 1984

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Suddenly the black factor is making itself felt in the limboing up for the 1984 presidential race. The Reagan Administration is polishing up its civil rights credentials and the Democrats are being teased by the question: will a black run for the presidential nomination?

Mr Reagan does not have much support among America's 27 million blacks. Civil rights leaders have described his record in respect of minorities as abysmal.

Mr George Bush, his Vice-President, was booed at the annual convention of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), in New Orleans, last week.

Recently the White House has made a number of positive civil rights moves. Government agencies have been told to give more help to minority businesses, an effort is being made to strengthen the housing laws and the Government has filed a desegregation suit against the state of Alabama.

Reagan officials are emphasizing the President's concern about civil rights, aware that they must tread carefully to avoid upsetting conservative Republicans.

Meanwhile, in contrast to the raspberry given to Mr Bush at the NAACP convention, there was a warm reception for Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic front runner.

His popularity puts into sharper focus the question of whether a black should seek the Democratic nomination. Some argue that a black candidate could cause confusion and drain support from a candidate who has good prospects and a sound civil rights record - Mr Mondale, for example.

Mr Benjamin Hooks, the NAACP director, in common with many blacks, feels that no black has a chance of getting the nomination and there is nothing concrete to be gained from a symbolic candidacy.

It is much better, he argues, to concentrate on getting blacks to the polls and working for the defeat of Mr Reagan, "who had been on the wrong side every civil rights question".

The difficulty in persuading blacks to register on the voting lists, and to vote, is considerable. Apathy has led to a decrease in black turnout, and black leaders are trying to boost political consciousness and increase registrations. Only three fifths of blacks are registered.

The other side of the candidacy debate is the strongly-held view that a black challenge could only bring benefit to the civil rights cause by exciting both black political awareness and press interest.

So far no black has offered himself as a contender, although the Rev Jesse Jackson, a civil rights veteran, disciple of Martin Luther King and the best known of black leaders, is seen as a possible runner.

He has made no commitment, but by fuelling speculation he increases the interest in civil rights and the black vote.

Meanwhile, the NAACP, which has been in the vanguard of the civil rights struggle since its founding in 1909, is in trouble. It is being weakened by falling membership and bickering among its leaders. Some of its followers say it has lost its sense of purpose, and its critics question its relevance.

In part the fall in membership is related to the achievements of many of the movement's goals: it was founded to fight segregation, lynching and insult. But its decline also reflects a lessening of political interest among blacks over the last decade, a muting of the black voice. In the 1980 presidential election only half the registered blacks voted, although there have been better turnouts in city mayoral elections. This time, whether or not a black joins the presidential race, black leaders want the black vote to count for more. They are looking for a revival.

Doctors fail to save arm of golfer

Melbourne - Doctors have failed to save the right arm of Jack Newton, aged 33, the Australian golfer, which was severed when he walked into the spinning propeller of a light aircraft at Sydney airport on Sunday night (Tony Duboudin writes). A seven-and-a-half hour operation ended unsuccessfully early yesterday.

Mr Newton may also lose the sight of his right eye and a spokesman for the Prince of Wales Hospital in Sydney said that he had suffered abdominal injuries. Last night he was still critically ill.

The accident occurred when he was hurrying to board the aircraft on his way home to Newcastle from Sydney, where he had some friends had travelled to see an Australian Rules football match.

Lawyer had two Sam missiles

Islamabad (AFP) - Pakistani martial law authorities have seized two Sam 7 surface-to-air missiles from a lawyer's office in Lahore.

The Associated Press of Pakistan news agency, quoting an official communiqué, said the missiles were found at a barrister's chambers in Farid Kot.

Second twin born safely

St Louis, Missouri (AP) - A woman, who miscarried one of her twin babies three and a half months ago, has successfully had the second twin, a 6lb 14oz baby.

Her doctor said the case was unique in the United States. Only one similar one existed - a German woman gave birth to a twin in 1978, 65 days after the first was delivered.

Sea hitchhikers

Copenhagen (AP) - Thirteen people are to appear in court after three of them hitched a ride from a passenger ferry to pull them on waterskis across the strait between the Danish islands of Zealand and Funen. Police said it was an advertising stunt.

Dhaka pledge

Dhaka, (Reuters) - General Hossain Muhammad Ershad, Bangladesh's military ruler, said he will restore the constitution and hold national elections by March 1985. He declared martial law when he deposed President Abdus Sattar in March, 1982.

Horses rescued

Fiber, Austria (AP) - A stable at the Lippizener stud farm was damaged by fire here yesterday but the horses were rescued unharmed. Eight mares and 31 foals died in an epidemic this year.

Pipeline ready

Moscow (AP) - The Soviet portion of the pipeline due to take natural gas from Siberia to West Europe was completed yesterday. Tass said. The whole pipeline is expected to be finished before the year ends.

Tunisians jailed

Tunisia (AFP) - Twelve people accused of setting up a revolutionary movement were jailed here for up to 10 years each with hard labour for plotting terrorists activities.

Azores delay

Lisbon (AFP) - Negotiations for the renewal of US military rights at the Lajes base in the Azores are deadlocked, the Azores delegation reported.

Border escape

Hanover (Reuters) - A 23-year-old East German soldier fled to the West after crossing security barricades, West German border guards said.

Armenian world congress

Terror and the political war

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

The Armenian world congress just ended in Lausanne reflected an ambivalent attitude towards terrorism.

There was outright condemnation of what was termed "blind violence", as typified by the Orly airport bomb outrage.

But the congress charter adopted on Sunday at the end of the four-day meeting - specifically speaks of "struggle in all its forms".

The congress, indeed, heard one speaker assert that the assassinations of Turkish diplomats by Asala (the Armenian Secret Army of the Liberation of Armenia) had served to bring the Armenian problem back to public attention after being dormant for half a century.

Elsewhere in the congress declaration setting up an Armenian national council, Armenians are exhorted to use "every political and diplomatic means to secure recognition of the Armenian people's inalienable rights and for the liberation of its territories occupied by Turkey".

At least 200 participants had

been expected but the Orly bombing caused many cancellations, particularly on the part of US and French Armenians. Among the 70 who did attend were several members of traditional Armenian parties on a private capacity.

Eight Turkish journalists were initially regarded with suspicion and hostility, but later found themselves sitting down to talk with congress participants.

The Armenian national council has the self-imposed task of trying to speak on behalf of the three million Armenians scattered across five continents - 600,000 of them in the United States.

● **TEHRAN:** - The whole street in front of the French Embassy in the centre of Tehran was closed off by police yesterday after Sunday night's bomb attack on the trade mission, claimed by an Armenian guerrilla group (Reuters reports). The suspect, who has not been named, was arrested by the Dutch police at Almelo last Friday.

previous bomb attacks. Responsibility for all three attacks was claimed in telephone calls by the Orly group, believed by French police to be connected with Asala.

In a telephone call to the French news agency in Tehran, a woman read a statement warning that the Orly group would strike again in France did not release a number of suspected members of Asala detained in Paris after the Orly bombing.

The Tehran bomb attacks have come at a time of severely strained relations between Iran and France due to French arms supplies to Iraq, Iran's enemy in the Gulf war.

● **BRUSSELS:** Belgium yesterday asked The Netherlands to extradite an Armenian man suspected of assassinating Mr Dursun Aksos, a Turkish Diplomat, here on July 14, the Justice Ministry said (AET reports). The suspect, who has not been named, was arrested by the Dutch police at Almelo last Friday.

Roger Scruton, page 10

سكنا من الامم

US transports fly in aid for Habré offensive against rebels

Ndjamena (AFP) - The first of six C141 Starliner transports of the United States Air Force arrived in Ndjamena yesterday with a dozen unarmed Jeeps, a tank and food rations.

The flight came after the July 10 announcement by Washington that it was providing \$10m (£6.4m) worth of aid to the Chad Government of Mr. Hissène Habré in his fight against the Libyan-backed forces of his ousted predecessor, Lt Goukouni Oueddei.

First out of the aircraft were 10 men, who set up a small command post to communicate by satellite with the Sixth Fleet, raising off Libya, in the Gulf of Gine.

Sources said the Americans are taking precautions against possible intervention against the airfield by Libyan fighters. These included a radar aircraft in patrol for the three days in which the Starliners will be flying to Ndjamena, and fighters on stand-by on Sixth Fleet ships.

Yesterday, the C141 kept its engines running as Chadians helped to unload the cargo, which the United States ambassador to Chad, Mr Peter Hoff.

Mr. Information Minister, said a second aircraft was due in the day. A United States source said the aircraft were flying from America.

Ndjamena basks in confidence

On just about every wall in the capital, there are posters of Mr. Habré, with slogans in French and Arabic exhorting the populace to support the struggle against the insurgents (Clifford May of the New York Times writes).

The posters show the president in fatigues as a guerrilla leader, in a dark suit as a statesman and in a military uniform as a devout Muslim.

Western diplomats describe him as a charismatic leader who is personally responsible in part at least for the recent successes of his forces in turning back the Libyan-supported insurgents of Mr Goukouni.

A week ago, as Mr Habré's forces were reported to be driving the rebels out of

Abché, more than 400 miles from here, and pursuing them northwards, the President was said to be on the scene, overseeing the counter-offensive.

Last week, his troops were skirmishing with rebels on the outskirts of Fada, 560 miles north-east of Ndjamena, in an apparent prelude to pushing north-westward. Mr Habré was again said to be with his troops, presumably at a base in the eastern part of the country. The oasis of Oum Chalouba, which his forces recaptured from the insurgents, is reportedly being turned into a well-stocked base for continuing the counter-offensive.

The capital, meanwhile, seems enveloped in a mood of confidence that government troops will soon be battling the rebels for control of the northern town of Faya-Largeau, which fell to the insurgents on June 24. Residents here who this month were afraid the rebels might have driven towards the capital from Abché, the southernmost point of their advance, seem relaxed once more.

Diplomats suggest that the President's forces could over-extend themselves, just as the insurgents did in their drive from Faya-Largeau to Abché. The insurgents' drive faltered when it was beset, far from its supply bases, by swift, determined attacks by government troops.

A main topic of discussion here has been the extent of involvement by foreign military personnel in the hostilities in this country of 4.4 million people. A week ago, officials exhibited a captured soldier whom they identified as a Libyan. They were seeking to support the Government's frequent allegations that large numbers of Libyans are fighting alongside the insurgents.

The captured soldier said that such support for the rebel forces was being provided by up to 1,500 Libyans and by 3,000 African members of the Islamic Legion of Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader.

French press accounts said there were 20 French and Belgian mercenaries aiding the government forces.

Good mood prevails at Hongkong talks

Peking (AFP) - Britain and China resumed talks on the future of Hongkong yesterday, two weeks after the latest round of discussions began. A statement is to be made tomorrow.

The statement should be made by the Chinese Foreign Ministry on behalf of both delegations and should announce the dates of the next round expected within the next two months.

The seven-member Chinese delegation is led by Yao Guang, First Deputy Foreign Minister, and Sir Percy Cradock, the British Ambassador to China.

The two sides met in the presence of 50 journalists, photographers and television cameramen, most of them from Hongkong.

The atmosphere was relaxed and delegates exchanged jokes for a few minutes while journalists were allowed inside the meeting room, which has a large picture of the house in Shaoshan, central China, where Mao Tse-tung was born.

In Hongkong, the *Tu Kung Pao* daily, which is close to Peking, forecast that a "reasonable and honourable" solution would be found for Hongkong in the next few months. China has said it means to resume sovereignty over the British Colony.



Rose Kennedy being presented with a cake on her ninety-third birthday by her daughter, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, with her son, Senator Edward Kennedy, and daughter, Jean Kennedy Smith, looking on at her Massachusetts home.

Police say abandoned baby is Coloured

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Lise Venter, the baby found abandoned in the open veld wrapped only in two thin blankets and a brown bag, has been "scientifically determined" by the South African police to be of "mixed race".

The police described as "pure speculation" suggestions in the local press that Lise - the name was given to her by staff at the

hospital to which she was taken after being found - could have been abandoned by a white woman fearful of prosecution under the Immorality Act, which prohibits sexual relations between whites and blacks.

Under the Population Registration Act everyone born in South Africa has to be assigned to one of three broad race groups - Whites, Coloured

(mixed-race) and Africans (blacks of Bantu origin). Indians, Chinese and a number of other ethnic minorities are regarded as separate subdivisions of the coloured group.

The normal test of race at birth, which is carried out by the Department of Internal Affairs, is the race of the father. The next most important criterion is appearance.

owners and the Government last November. The Government has the power to control prices under a 1945 law. Infractions carry penalties of a fine up to 200,000 francs and up to two years' jail.

Socialists in France hit back at press baron

From Diana Geddes Paris

The Government has decided to join battle against France's most powerful press baron, M Robert Hersant, who through the columns of his 19 newspapers and some 50 periodicals has kept up a constant barrage of fierce and often vitriolic criticism against the Socialists ever since they took power just over two years ago.

The Government is to prosecute the management of *Figaro*, France's leading right-wing daily and star of the Hersant empire, for contravening the law on price controls after M Hersant's decision to defy a government ruling banning a cover price increase from 3.70 francs (about 30p) to 3.80 francs.

In an announcement at the weekend, the Government explained that it had decided to freeze the cover price of both *Le Figaro* and *France-Soir*, the popular Paris evening paper also owned by M Hersant, and to cut the price of the Saturday edition of *Le Figaro* that comes with a colour supplement from 11.50 francs to 10.50 francs, because the Hersant group had failed to respect a national agreement on newspaper price increases signed by newspaper owners and the Government last November.

The Government has the power to control prices under a 1945 law. Infractions carry penalties of a fine up to 200,000 francs and up to two years' jail.

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Prisoners of conscience



Somalia: Arteb Ghalib

By Caroline Moorehead

Omar Arteb Ghalib, a senior Foreign Minister, is one of seven MPs of the country's ruling party, the Somali Revolutionary Social Party, being held incommunicado without trial since June, 1982.

He is believed to be in military confinement in Labso, near Baidoa, where conditions are extremely harsh.

There have been frequent allegations of ill-treatment and even of prisoners there.

The authorities have given details so far of the basis for charges levelled against the men that they were "endangering the independence, unity and security of the state".

But they were reported to have been arrested soon after trying to organize Central committee members to vote against the re-nomination, for a third term, of President Siad Barre.

All seven are believed to have been critical of his rule and of government policies.

Mr Ghalib is 53, a graduate of Bristol University, and arrived with 12 children. At the time of his arrest he was Deputy-Speaker of the people's National Assembly.

The charge of "conspiracy against the state" carries under national Security Law 54, a mandatory sentence of death or confiscation of property.

In Somalia the death penalty is used for a large number of offences, including going on strike, sedition and "using religion to destroy the unity of the nation."

Mr Ghalib: In solitary confinement.

French keep hold on bridge lead

From Keith Stanley Wiesbaden

A resounding 18-2 lead against third-placed Germany gave France a commanding position in the Open European bridge championship in Wiesbaden.

In round 13 Britain defeated the holders, Poland, 12-8, then defeated Portugal 12-8 and in round 15 they lead Sweden by 46 IMPs at half-time.

The British women made an uncertain start in defence of their title with a narrow loss to round two, followed by a 17-2 win against Spain in round three.

Results round 13: Romania 12, France 8; Norway 20, Belgium 0; Finland 4, Sweden 16; Hungary 11, Israel 9; Netherlands 19, Portugal 1; Switzerland minus 2, Spain 20; Britain 12, Poland 8; Lebanon 1, Iceland 19; Turkey minus 2, Ireland 20; Austria 9, Yugoslavia 11; Luxembourg 12, Denmark 8; Italy 19, Germany 1.

Results round 14: Denmark 20, Romania minus 2, Norway 13, Hungary 7, Belgium 16, Finland 4; Yugoslavia minus 1, Luxembourg 20; Ireland 9, Italy 11; Iceland 8; Austria 11; Poland minus 2, Turkey 20; Spain 2, Lebanon 18; Portugal 8; Britain 12; Israel 10; Switzerland 10; Sweden 14, Netherlands 6; Germany 2, France 18.

Standings after 14 rounds: 1, France 219; 2, Belgium 185; 3, Italy 168; and Germany 168; 4, Sweden 167; 5, Poland 166; 6, Hungary 163; 7, Netherlands 160; 8, Norway 160; 9, Austria 157; 10, Ireland 149; 11, Lebanon 142; 12, Denmark 134; 13, Israel 134; 14, Switzerland 131; 15, Romania 128; 16, Luxembourg 112; 17, Turkey 102; 18, Iceland 94; 19, Portugal 90; 20, Spain 81; 21, Yugoslavia 80; 22, Finland 70.

Results women, round two: Switzerland 16, Sweden 4; France 14, Poland 6; Finland 20, Ireland 0; Italy 5, Spain 15; Netherlands 11, Britain 9; Israel 4, Germany 16.

Results women, round three: Sweden 20, Finland minus 4; Israel 1, France 19; Ireland 6, Netherlands 14; Spain 2, Britain 17; Poland 13, Italy 7; Germany 18, Switzerland 22.

Women's standings after three rounds: 1, Germany 47; 2, France 44; Britain 43; 4, Netherlands 41; 5, Poland 38; 6, Sweden 31; 7, Spain 26; 8, Switzerland 23; 9, Ireland 21; 10, Finland 18; 11, Italy 16; 12, Israel 6.

Uganda MPs given bail

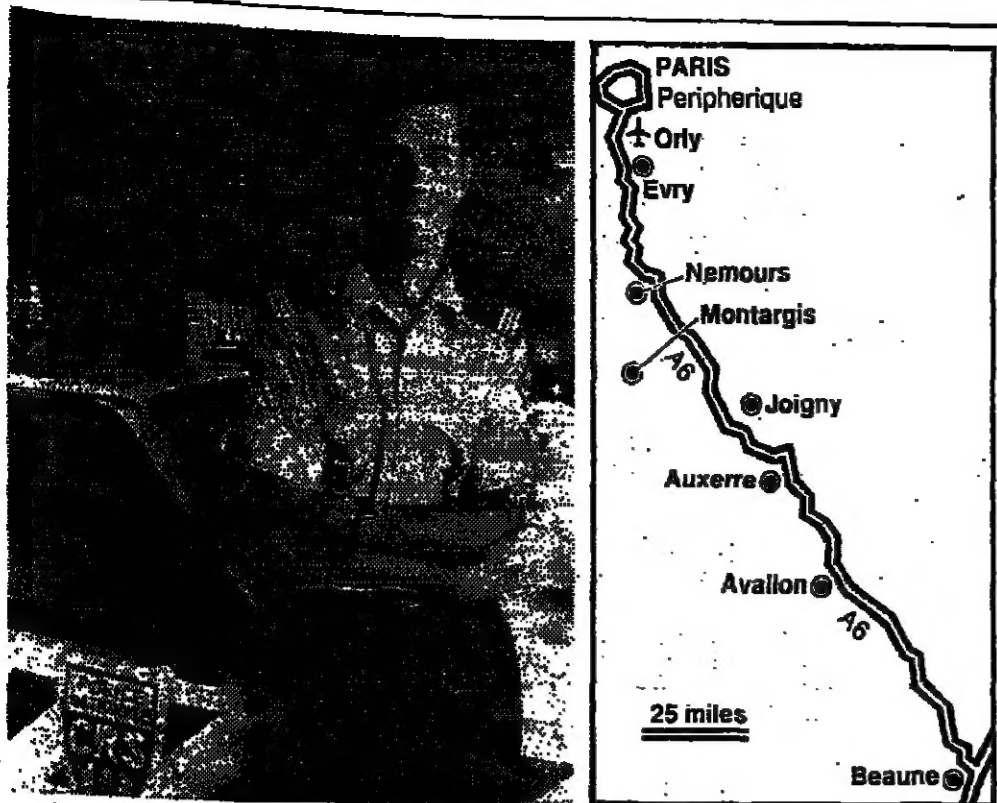
Kampala (AFP) - Two Ugandan opposition MPs arrested here last Friday were released on bail the following day, Democratic Party officials said. They were held in connexion with dissident activities in the Luwero district north of Kampala.

In Geneva, the League of Red Cross Societies yesterday appealed for emergency funds to assist 60,000 Ugandan refugees uprooted by fighting between government troops and guerrillas.

SPECTRUM

Policing French motorways is more dangerous than quelling riots, according to officers of the force that does both.

Diana Geddes reports on the less well known operations of the men who wear the feared CRS badge



Captain Marthey, head of the CRS police in the southern sector of the A6 autoroute, mapped here; and, right, the autoroute squad at work at the scene of an accident



Life and death in the fast lane

Paris To most people, the CRS means the French riot police – those vicious-looking men behind helmets and riot shields, carrying automatic pistols, tear-gas grenades and batons, who bash students, farmers and other demonstrators over the head with the same apparent gay abandon.

Amazingly, the same CRS (Compagnie Republique de Sécurité) are also responsible for the nation's mountain rescue, beach safety, and autoroute security services. A CRS officer may be seen one day in full battle dress charging an inner city riot, and the next on a Mediterranean beach in bathing trunks leaping out through the surf to save a drowning child, or in uniform on a motorway giving first-aid treatment to the injured in a crash.

There were more than five million accidents on French roads last year, which left 13,000 dead and 320,000 injured – an average of 35 killed and nearly 900 injured every day. During the holiday rush – and that means now – the toll is much higher. Some ten million people are expected to take to the roads this coming weekend. France's death rate per road user per mile is two to three times as high as in Britain, the United States, Sweden and Japan.

I spent a day with the CRS autoroute patrol for the 70 miles of motorway in the southern sector of the Ile de France (Greater Paris) area. It is a particularly troublesome sector which includes Orly airport (the CRS autoroute police were very much involved in both the recent Armenian terrorist bomb attack at Orly, and the earlier Iranian hijacking); the Rungis meat and vegetable markets – the new Les Halles, which attracts hundreds of heavy goods lorries every day; and the famous A6 autoroute to the south. Along this the British, Dutch, and French pour in their search for the sun, and many of the worst accidents seem to occur here, including that involving two busloads of children near Beaune in which 53 people died.

I had chosen July 13 as the day on which to accompany the patrol as traffic was expected to be particularly dense that evening before the traditional July 14 long weekend. By 6.30 pm, more than 40 miles of traffic jams were being recorded on the computers in the CRS command post at Arcueil. To my slight surprise, however, Captain Daniel Marthey, the 35-year-old head of CRS autoroute police in

the southern sector, did not seem unduly concerned.

"We can do nothing about the jams," he explained. "In fact, we actually rather like them. They mean fewer serious accidents. People are moving too slowly to get badly hurt. The worst conditions are thunderstorms after a long dry spell, when the roads become like a skating rink as the first rain mixes with the oil on the surface, or after a snowfall."

All emergency calls in the Ile de France area, excluding Paris itself, go through the CRS command posts. Orange telephone boxes, placed at regular intervals of about a mile along the motorways, link the caller directly to the command post, which then alerts the fire brigade, breakdown, and ambulance services, advising them as to which route to take (the most obvious route may be blocked with traffic), and sending CRS motorcycleists to clear their way.

The national ambulance service, known as the SAMU (Service d'Aide Médicale d'Urgence), is a relatively recent innovation. "Up until ten years ago, it was the police who carried the injured to hospital. We killed people, we really did," Captain Marthey said. "The introduction of the SAMU has been a huge advance. The ambulances are always staffed by a doctor; many are like mobile hospitals, equipped with full life-support systems and now, within the last few months, they have brought in an ambulance-helicopter."

"We called out the helicopter last week to pick up an eight-year old boy, terribly injured in a road accident. It was there in three minutes; in another five minutes the boy was in hospital, being operated on."

"Going to an accident isn't funny. It was a terrible scene. Even the doctor was crying when I arrived, and I said to myself, 'that's not a good start'. People often think we're stone-hearted, but it's not true. I'll lie awake at night sometimes thinking about what I've seen. You don't lose your sensitivity on this job, but you learn to control your emotions."

Captain Marthey, a tall, athletic-looking man, smiled wanly as he relived those memories. We had come off the stiflingly hot, clogged motorway, and were sitting with Captain Francois Langros of the CRS Ile de France headquarters in the relative cool of the officers' dining room at the CRS Company Five base at Massy; drinking a chilled Beaune wine, and

eating a simple, but good five-course meal – jambon cru, crudités, steak, cheese, ice-cream. "We like to keep up our traditions of warm hospitality and a good table."

And what about their "bash-them-over-the-heads" image? How did that fit in? "It's good that people are a bit frightened of us," Captain Marthey replied. "The CRS here at Massy were called out last weekend to go to La Courneuve in the northern outskirts of Paris, where a demonstration over the death of Toufik Ouannes [the nine-year-old Algerian boy who was shot dead by an irate neighbour because he was making too much noise] was threatening to get out of hand. The local people heard we were coming, and everything quietened down. If we can preserve the image of the red devil, that actually helps us avoid violence."

Like all French police, the CRS are armed. How often did they use their guns? Unexpectedly, neither Captain Marthey nor Captain Langros had drawn their guns since leaving the officer's training school, and both had think hard of the last occasion when any member of the CRS, including those involved in riot control, had used their weapons.

The seeming frequent and much criticized police *bavures*, or mistakes, involving the wrongful wounding or even killing of members of the public, were not the CRS's doing, they insisted. "You forget that you are wearing a gun," Captain Marthey commented. "I think that's as it should

be, otherwise you might be tempted to use it."

Both officers were agreed, that autoroute patrol work was much more dangerous than riot control or other law and order work. Guns could do nothing to help them, he said. Motorways were simply very dangerous places. It was for that reason that hitch-hiking was banned on motorways, for example. The public often seemed to be unaware of the dangers.

"You simply wouldn't believe some people's behaviour," Captain Marthey said. "I came across a man the other day who was changing his tyre in the fast lane of the motorway. He said he hadn't wanted to pull over on to a lay-by for fear of damaging his tyre! Every week, we have at least one call about someone driving at top speed down the motorway in the wrong direction. Sometimes they're drunk or have fallen asleep at the wheel, but quite often it's just for a dare."

"Whenever there's a serious accident, you'll always get some people who stop on the hard shoulder, blocking access to the emergency services, in order to take pictures of the carnage, before going contentedly on their way, happy to have a good souvenir of their holidays."

Captain Marthey is proud of the fact that the number of accidents involving injury or death in his sector has been brought down to under 300 a year. The vast majority of calls to his command post, which average 50 a day, involve breakdowns rather than accidents.



Coach carnage: 53 died in this crash on the A6 near Beaune last year

moreover...
Miles Kington

Mills and Bomb

Men prefer facts while women prefer feelings, Rachel Billington once wrote; that is why the former read books about war and the latter read fiction, romantic or otherwise. And in her new book *Animals In War* Jilly Cooper confesses that although married to a publisher of 400 military histories, she had read fewer than half a dozen of them. "In the same way that men spurn novels, particularly romantic fiction, women tend to avoid war books, as being an exclusively guts-and-glory male province."

When two of our leading women writers combine to express the same thought, I tend to treat it as received truth. And then my mind wanders to the next question beyond, which is: if it is really true that there is a sharp divide between men's war books and women's romance, is there not some way in which I can make vast sums of money out of this discovery?

From there it is but a short step to the formation of a new publishing house which will issue novels for men and women – romantic military fiction! Moreover's new imprint, which is to be called Mills and Bomb, or perhaps Mills and Bang, will shortly be flooding bookshelves with the initial titles, of which details now follow.

To Call Him Sir, by Angela Distauff.

When Robin joined the platoon, he had already heard the stories about Sergeant Withers. Tough, cynical, sadistic, they said. And yet there was some soft pool of hurt concealed in the sergeant's eyes, which told Robin that there was a altogether more complex person tucked behind those sergeant's stripes than the world knew of. "So you're bleeding Robin-bleeding-Darlington-Smythe, are you?" the sergeant said at their first meeting. "Well, we'll have those bleeding hyphens knocked out of you before you can say hunt-bell."

The tears clustered hot on Robin's eyelashes, beneath the whiplash of these cruel words. How I hate him, he thought. Yet before the war was very much older, the two men would find themselves mixed up in a circle of passion, carnage and ammunition shortage which would change both of them irrevocably.

Jungle Johnny, by Elena Samson.

Major-General Bridget Yates, of the Women's Royal Air Corps, was used to interrogating prisoners. But there was something unusual about the man they brought in one day – his crinkly laugh-lines, perhaps, the proud, unmanageable look in his eyes or even the way he refused to speak no matter how hard she lashed him with her hand-bag. When he turned out to be Johnny Kapok, the famous roving American reporter, she had an uneasy feeling that their paths were to cross more than once in this hell without food or good cosmetics that women call war.

The Mountain Flower, by Iris Ferrage.

A recon in war-torn Afghanistan was just another job to see TV cameraman Max Winton, or so he thought. But he had not reckoned on a meeting with a petite, sparkling Ludmilla, a runaway refugee from the occupying Soviet forces.

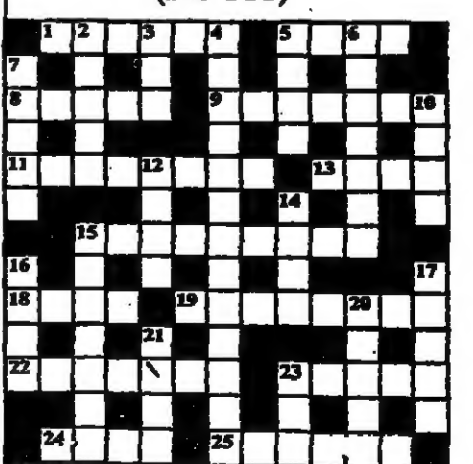
"You can hang around with us if you like," said Max gruffly, "as long as you don't mind carrying the spare camera and the batteries. And don't imagine you'll be getting a slice of our overnight allowances, my little Russian doll."

"Of course not, Max," said Ludmilla, playing with his ear-ring. She had not met men with ear-rings before, especially ones inscribed "BBC News Cameraman Do It Overnight". "Tell me, do you think I could get a job with your Central Office of Information when we get back to Britain?"

Was? The COI? Back to Britain? Max thought of his boss at Wood Lane. Would he understand if he returned with a Russian crew member? More to the point, would his wife Theresa? Max decided there and then to ditch Ludmilla at the first opportunity. Little did he realize how signally he would fail, or indeed that there was now a tiny bug fixed to his ear-ring.

(Other titles in preparation: A Third World War Romance by Jean Hackett, Belfast Beauty by Della Driscoll, Yumping Into Passion by Petra Stanley, etc., etc.)

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 111)



- ACROSS
- 1 Snapper (6)
 - 2 Unable to hear (4)
 - 3 Broadcast again (5)
 - 4 Evil action (7)
 - 5 Change (8)
 - 6 Quite good (4)
 - 7 Complicated (9)
 - 8 Inwards (4)
 - 9 Abandon (8)
 - 10 Wood flooring (7)
 - 11 Giver (5)
 - 12 Retain (4)
 - 13 Sewn timber (6)
- DOWN
- 1 Eskimo coat (5)
 - 2 White spirit (3)
 - 3 Easily upset (11)
 - 4 Writing table (4)
 - 5 Synthetic fibre (7)
 - 6 Fifth (4)
 - 7 Indication (4)
 - 8 Contest (4)
 - 9 Regret (7)
 - 10 Become misshapen (4)
 - 11 Noose (3)
 - 12 Scorch (5)
 - 13 Back deformity (4)
 - 14 Badly lit (3)

SOLUTION TO No 110

ACROSS: 1 Handicapped 9 Utopian 10 Neigh 11 Spy 13 Etna 16 Boor 17 Cabala 18 Mule 20 Felt 21 Curate 22 Rink 23 Glim 25 Her 26 Erase 29 Alewife 30 Depth charge

DOWN: 2 Adorn 3 Drap 4 Cans 5 Pony 6 Epitome 7 Supermarket 8 Short temper 12 Pillar 14 Ace 15 Obsolete 19 Linacre 20 Peg 24 Lying 25 Heat 26 RACF 27 Mesa

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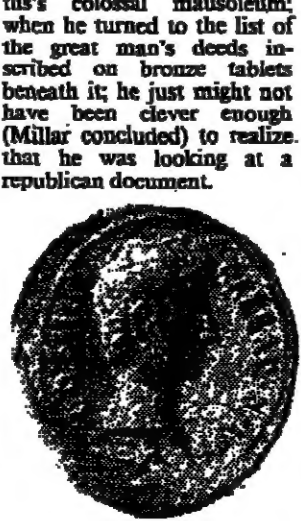
George Allen & Unwin

Augustus loses his reputation

Sir Ronald Syme's *The Roman Revolution* (1939) is one of the most thrilling historical works of the century. Beneath his pitiless scrutiny, Augustus, who had tended to go a rather good press, turned into a thoroughgoing despot, ruthless and fraudulent. Last April, to mark Syme's eightieth birthday, a colloquium was held at Wolfson College, Oxford, at which speakers from six different countries took a fresh look at the first Roman emperor.

Augustus (right) claimed to have restored the old constitution in 27 BC, but he emerged from this conference looking more monarchical than ever. Jasper Griffin, in a paper on Augustus's poets, pointed out how they differ from the third century Greek poets, with whom they have often been compared, when they address their master. Callimachus, at the court of the Ptolemys, can venture a risqué allusion to the king's relations with his wife (and sister); that would be unthinkable in Augustus's time. Instead the poets describe him as a semi-divine figure.

The more we look at the Greek precedents, the more novel does Augustus's style of image building appear. Examining the evidence of architecture and inscriptions, Professor Fergus Millar drew a similar moral. When the ordinary citizen of Rome looked at the massive public buildings put up by Augustus to his own greater glory; when he cast his eye over Augustus's colossal mausoleum; when he turned to the list of the great man's deeds inscribed on bronze tablets beneath it; he just might not have been clever enough (Miller concluded) to realize that he was looking at a republican document.



Syme's own book drew no explicit parallel with more recent times, but few of his first readers can have failed to think of Mussolini. In the age of Mao and Brezhnev the combination of monarchical self-advertisement and repub-

FINDINGS

A series reporting on research
ROMAN STUDIES

litan forms still seems a relevant object of study. Oxford University Press are publishing the proceedings of the conference and hope to have them out by the end of the year.

Statue find

Among recent finds at Baiae on the bay of Naples is a quantity of plaster statuary – a rare survival. The detail is of fine quality and it seems clear that these are casts of Greek bronze originals, probably for the copyists who made marble reproductions were big business in the Roman world; now we have new evidence of how the business was organized.

Drudgery

The year 1982 saw the completion, after 51 years, of the *Oxford Latin Dictionary*, now the biggest and best Latin-English dictionary in existence. But lexicographers do not face redundancy just yet. The immense *Thesaurus Linguae Latinae*, based at

Munich, was started in 1883; it has now reached the letter P, with N omitted. When Dr Johnson defined the lexicographer as "a maker of dictionaries, he didn't know the half of it."

Fallacy exposed

Did the Romans acquire their empire in a fit of absence of mind? It has often been held that they were not conscious imperialists; that though they liked loot, slaves and military glory, they constantly conquered foreign peoples without trying to consolidate their rule or their economic power.

In 1979, William V. Harris of Columbia University mounted a controversial challenge to this view. He argued that war was built into the Roman attitude to life; they knew that there were large profits to be made out of empire and their policies were openly expansionist. If successful commanders seem to have pulled their punches, it was because the governing oligarchy would not allow any one individual to become too powerful or acquire too much prestige. Now some new evidence has been thrown into the argument. It used to be said

that the Romans were not seriously involved in the Greek east before 200 BC. But an inscription from the Greek island of Chios published last year provides for the setting up of a festival of Rome and the honouring of Romulus and Remus; and the letter forms point to a date in the 230s. Some scholars have refused to believe it; perhaps, they say, the stonemason was a particularly old-fashioned character. No doubt the debate will continue.

Amo, Amas

The future of classical studies will depend largely on the strength of Latin in our schools and universities. Latin has had a modest revival in American high schools in the last few years; more surprising, this renaissance has been inspired by the severely utilitarian "back to basics" movement. A study by R. Macabantonio, an American sociologist, on programmes to teach Latin to inner city children indicates that their power to express themselves in English improved strikingly as a result; research in this country by David Corson suggests similar conclusions.

Richard Jenkyns

FASHION by Suzy Menkes

SHORTS

All sorts of shorts are now an accepted part of summer in the city. Streamlined styles make for maximum exposure while the sun shines



Sports Shorts (top). Working out in the street is becoming commonplace. Joggers sprint in city streets and the public participate in open-air exercise classes. Cotton lycra short shorts £19.95. Op-art top £22.99. In turquoise, cerise, aqua, white and black. By Tickets from Harrods. Lillywhites, Simpsons, Jervais Night and Day Boutique, Edinburgh and Tickets, 90 High Street, Harrow, Middlesex (E1 p & p).

Action Shorts (above). Tailor-made for fast movements about town. Cuffed bermuda shorts £19.99 in white, navy, beige by Ally Capellino for Hearts of Oak from Harrods. Lucinda Byre, Liverpool. Ray-Ban 'Wayfarer' sunglasses £27.50 from Whistles. Red mesh top, £4.95, and striped belt, Fenwick. Sailor cap £9.95 from The Hat Shop, 58 Neal Street, WC2. Chain bracelet, Detail. Spotted valise, The General Store, Covent Garden.

Wearing shorts to work is a new idea in this country. Down Under, tailored 'walk shorts' are everyday work wear for men. Here, men turn up at the office in their squishy shorts during the heatwave. (Especially disconcerting are city gents' spindly white legs in scrubby gardening shorts and heavy black shorts on the 8.30 London-bound train). Girls who don't want to be told 'this isn't the beach, dear' should choose a well-cut pair of shorts. Long-line shorts in dark colours like navy are more acceptable for city life than beach styles.

Chic Shorts (top left). Crisp cotton shorts with side-buckles £26. Ochre, white, black. Patched top £32, cream, black. Both from Whistles, 14 Beauchamp Place, SW3 and branches. Wooden necklace £48.50 from Michaels. Fry, 47 South Molton Street, W1. Tan leather belt, Warehouse.

Cool Shorts (above). Side-slit shorts look young and fun for the bar or disco. Khaki hessian with beige suede trim £49. Safari-style top £26. By More and More from Studio 49, 49 Market Place, W11. Dash 55, Stevenson Street, Birmingham 2. Chain jewelry, Detail.

Sun Shorts (right). Lunchtime sunbathing in the park has become a national city pastime. Fresh lemon sweatshirting shorts £7.80. Lemon cotton tie-back top with lilac spots £8.20. From branches of Banetton and Tarnato. White watch £22.95. The General Store, WC2. Lace-ups £10. Moony's, 241 King's Road, SW3 and branches.



Zandra Rhodes is passionate about her garden and her work - at this time of the year in that order.

The creator of exquisite and ethereal chiffon dresses spends her spare time with her feet and hostas planted firmly on the ground. From the unpromising 15 foot square back yard of her west London home, she has fashioned a fairy tale garden as extraordinary as any of her works of art.

"The thing that I find most amazing is that because I did all the wrong things accidentally, I have made it look so huge", she says. "I built these enormous steps in the smallest garden in the world and now I can climb up them like a very grand staircase."

The steps are the focal point of the garden and its first folly. They are covered in a mosaic of mirror glass, made by sculptor Andrew Logan - a personal friend and the creator of the striking Zandra Rhodes accessories.

Over the Cinderella staircase cascades a waterfall of greenery. "All the plants in this garden are green and white," she explains. "This white rose has taken over from the camellias and rhododendrons. I realized that the secret of growing things in a north-facing, sunless garden is to read up about the original environment of the plants. If they come from the Himalayas, they are going to survive against my wall. I feel the same about the plants as I do about people who work in my business. If they don't perform well they are out."

Zandra admits that when she moved into the rambling four-storey house eight years ago, she had never nurtured anything but a plastic plant - mostly the arum lilies that she used in one of her best-known prints and that have become the Rhodes symbol.

Purist gardeners would be appalled to discover that the plastic plant is with her still - used along with the real thing. Here is an evergreen plastic fern among a clump of luxuriant stag horn ferns and papyrus; there is a variegated ivy draped across the plastic one that hugs an awkward drainpipe.

"I can't bear to have a bald garden", she says blithely of this unorthodox mix of plastic and potting compost. "I try not to have things that burrow into the brickwork or make the wall damp."

The walls themselves have unexpected treatment. To the left of the narrow backyard are cockle shells (subverted from a fish restaurant) strung along the wall over a trellis that is backed with mirrored glass. To the right are Mexican caryatids, brought from a prop shop and made out of fibre glass - as realistic as the noble fibre glass blackmoors that guard the entrance to her sunken living room.

At the summit of the stairway to the sun, is another bit of Mexican party decor - a glass fibre statue of the rain god Chac (who does not seem to have done a very good job of filling the rainwater butt which she reserves for her more important plants.)

The trees are kept in pots to ensure the right soil and watering conditions. In the

The first of an occasional series on how fashion designers live

Zandra's magic garden



Zandra Rhodes: plastic palm, rain god statue and a profusion of plants over the mirrored steps

garden there is a glowing red leaved acer and an American dogwood. ("I worked out that if the Americans had such terrible winters, it would stay alive in Notting Hill.")

On the two flat roofs higher up the house are more trees - a collection of fruit trees that makes an urban orchard in the air, and a magnificent palm that does duty as curtains on the guest room balcony. That palm turns out to be a fake.

Zandra Rhodes holds her business together with a mixture of creative energy, design flair and crushing hard work. Her house and gardens are much the same, built on effort and enthusiasm rather than with money.

She now takes in visits to gardens as part of her work schedule. Manet's garden as a treat from Paris. Wisley for the old English roses on the way to a client's wedding. Her garden-

ing was self taught on an aeroplane from the Macmillan Pocket Encyclopedia of Indoor plants.

"I read it right through like a novel and had this sudden realization that plants can make the place look wonderful."

Will all this horticultural enthusiasm find its way into her work? That now includes a perfume (to be launched next year), knitwear for a Scottish

company, embroideries done in India and a costume spectacular for CBS in America of Romeo and Juliet on Ice. "I thought the other day that the garden was looking so wonderful that maybe I should just go out there and do some drawings", she says. "I'm working on flowers at the moment and my new print has turned out to be a Cubist floral."

Photograph by Nick Briggs

FASHION FLASH

Terence Conran gave birth last week to his latest baby - the revamped, redesigned Mothercare range. While we were still watching the lively presentation and fashion show, another project-to-be was announced: a chain of early teen clothes from the Mothercare group, to be called NOW and opening with five test shops on October 1.

Conran called the Mothercare launch a 'progress report'. Suitably enough, some of the most obvious changes in design and emphasis came in the back-to-school clothes (unleashed in the shops the day that schools broke up for the summer).

There are cheerily coloured shoe bags, satchels and sports bags, all shown with the clothes in a free leaflet. (The catalogue now costs 20p).

The general merchandise is colourful and simply designed, although the slide presentation photographed in the conceptual stages brought home how much thought and work has to go into apparently simple products.

The clothing has changed less than I expected, with the motif still rampant over everything from hat cases to track suits and the maternity wear very basic.

As a mother of sons, I think that boys are offered a puny selection. But some of the new girls wear is splendid, especially the Jagtogs separates in sweat-shirt fabrics and a colourful range of dance wear.

Sexy black bras, scanty French knickers and silky tuxedo suits were the curtain raisers to Marks and Spencer's first-ever formal fashion show for the press.

Having made their statement against the "safe" image of chain store fashion, M and S abandoned their sexy fantasies and settled down to show more everyday fashions, although these included a very good-looking men's dinner jacket (£50) and matching evening trousers (£25). Casual wear is now much stronger, with a sporty workwear gilet (£13.99)

and grey jeans (£16.99) and this colour theme was carried through to classy grey leather trousers (£59.50).

I still find the women's tailoring slightly stodgy, but the country styles - for both sexes - are very stylish, with a selection of craggy Aran knits for women and a man's green cord lumber-jacket (£39.95) that will certainly be bought by women. Acknowledging this transsexual trend, M and S showed their simple men's pyjamas and white towelling robes (£25) on their girl models, who looked far better dressed in their borrowed plumage than in their sexy scanties.

With 40 of his Japanese licences descending on London last week, Hardy Amies still found time to unveil his autumn/winter couture and boutique collections.

The day dress was the star of his new line, designed by Ken Fretwood, which included soft, slim wool dresses in quiet colours like brown and grey. For later day, jewel colours like royal purple, kingfisher blue and jade green spiced up the chic but sombre blacks and graphite greys.

The coat and dress - at its most sophisticated in three-quarter length over a slim crepe cocktail dress - is taking over from the suit as the fashion look for the autumn. Soft evening trousers with a kimono jacket and sequinned T-shirt were an interesting evening style.

Hardy Amies, an indefatigable 74, leaves next week for a promotional tour of the United States where his menswear is a best-selling range. For Britain, he is designing a new range of homewear for Saxon lingerie for next Spring.

Meanwhile, he tells me that the couture workrooms have never been so busy, suggesting that there is a renaissance of couture in Britain as well as in France. I shall be reporting from there on the Paris collections next week.

Margaret Howell

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Photographed on location at The Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC1. The Barbican Family Festival (8-21 August) features over 150 events from chess tournaments and children's theatre, to art exhibitions and 'Sound Sculpture', thirty stainless steel pieces for the public to play. On-going attractions include the fountains on the Lakeside Terrace, the Sculpture Court on Level 8 and The Conservatory Terrace. The Centre is open 9 am-11 pm (Mon-Sat); noon-11 pm (Sun). Box Office and Information: 028 8785.

Hair by Karen at Joshua and Daniel Galvin

Photographs by RUSSELL MALIK

Fashion by CHRISTINE PAINELL

THE TIMES DIARY

Cheque mates

This newspaper business is paying better and better. Further to my note about the unexpected bonus paid to Yorkshire Post staff by the company computer (leading to the finance director for a refund), I now learn that on the same day something similar happened on The Guardian. Eight senior editorial staff, including leader writer John Torode and city editor Victor Keegan, a staff representative on the board of trustees, were overpaid by £1,000 each. No sooner had this pleasant surprise been discovered than they were visited by the editor's secretary, begging for cheques to return the money. The Guardian journalists do not have trusting natures. Some of them have said they will wait to see whether their pay cheques are cleared first.

Dry rot

Dr John Green, reader in climatology at Imperial College, London, says the Met Office are "absolutely bonkers". He is not the first of course. His scorn, though, is directed at a Met Office computer model prediction which suggested that the "greenhouse effect" of increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere could almost destroy by drought the agriculture of Europe, North America and much of the Soviet Union, while benefitting third world countries with more rain and bigger crops. Such natural justice, like hurricanes in Hampshire, hardly happens. "They have conveniently forgotten about absorption on the sea surface", Green says. Atmospheric CO₂ has increased by 11 per cent since the 1950s, but how apocalyptic this is I still do not know.

● J. M. Jerram of Newbury thinks it must have been a Freudian slip that made the management of the Sommerhof Hotel at Gosau in Austria list a vegetable on their menu as "Jung peas".

Steeple chase

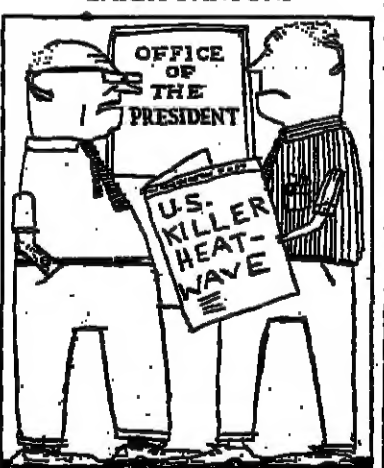
One of London's most beautiful church steeples, that of St Mary-le-Strand, is about to be dismantled as a dangerous structure. The trouble is that iron clamps set in the stone have expanded with corrosion and split whole blocks. Like neighbouring St Clement Dane's, St Mary-le-Strand was built in the early eighteenth century by the Aberdeen architect, James Gibbs. The poet laureate, Sir John Betjeman, has written a poem in celebration of the steeple which, though otherwise unpublished, is being given in return for donations to St Mary-le-Strand's appeal fund. Restoration of the steeple is at present expected to cost £225,000. Donald Stenden, that ornate celebrant of things churchy, will take down the first stone next month.

● A PHSpy reports a Unigate millfloat trundling down a street in sweltering Stevenage advertising: "The bottle to beat the British winter."

Silly season

I have received from several sources the malicious suggestion that when Sir Harold Wilson chooses his new title he should follow the precedent set by George Thomas, now Lord Tonyard. No, not Lord Hutton: Lord Scilly.

BARRY FANTONI



Relax, Ronald's told Henry to talk to God about it

Out of line

John Betjeman's television film *Metroland* was recently shown for the sixth time, and promptly became the subject of a complaint to the Broadcasting Complaints Commission. Chorleywood Council took exception to a sequence showing three horses being ridden beside the Metropolitan Line track on common land which, the Poet Laureate's commentary remarked, was better for sport than farming. Riding there was forbidden by by-law, the council complained, and to encourage it was reprehensible. The Broadcasting Complaints Commission does not intend to take the matter any further and *Metroland*'s producer, Eddie Mirzoeff, tells me Betjeman found the whole episode "delightful".

Our neighbours the Scots are not as underprivileged as they were under the new Tenants' Rights Act leases, council tenants in Aberdeen are now allowed to dance in their own homes. In Falkirk tenants are permitted to display election posters in their windows, though only for seven days before polling. And in Caithness tenants can hang out their washing but "shall not otherwise expose to public view any clothes or unsightly objects". It does not say whether that would include the kilt. PHS

Avoiding an Israeli Vietnam

by Shimon Peres

It is time for Israel to begin withdrawing its troops from all of Lebanon and to replace them with military arrangements - provided by the multinational force and the militia of Major Saad Haddad - that assure Israel's security.

Israel's forces are stationed in three distinct regions of Lebanon. In the eastern region, parallel to the Syrian border, the Israeli army faces the Syrian army. Syria is not trying to provoke the Israelis, but it is trying to improve its political and strategic position - by strengthening its ties with the Soviet Union, dominating and manipulating PLO leaders, threatening the Lebanese and making life difficult for Israeli soldiers.

In the central region - the Chuf mountains and the Beirut area - the Israeli forces are caught in the inter-ethnic and inter-party clashes between Christians, Muslims and Druze.

Demographic changes have heightened tension in this region: the Christians have lost their demographic majority, and the other communities are hoping, at least tacitly, that Israeli tanks will settle the discrepancies between the demography and the old constitution based on a Christian majority. But the Israelis can only put out fires; they cannot eliminate the sources of the conflagration.

The southern region, south of the Awali River, is inhabited by a Shiite Muslim majority, some Palestinian refugees and a Christian minority. Major Haddad's forces have succeeded in establishing relative peace

in the region and in preventing the return of PLO terrorists.

The commonly accepted view is that the Israeli presence in the eastern region exerts pressure on Syria to withdraw from Lebanon. However, this very optimistic assumption has not yet been proved, and I doubt it will be.

Even if we agree that Syria is not a Soviet satellite, it is today more than ever dependent on the Soviet Union. And even if we assume that Russia is not interested in direct conflict - neither between itself and the United States nor between Israel and Syria - it is clear that Moscow is not interested in any peace settlement arranged by the US without the Soviet Union. Certainly, Moscow would consider an overall evacuation of Lebanese territory an undesirable American success.

Should the Syrians withdraw, this would also require the withdrawal of the PLO units under its aegis on Lebanese soil (in the Bekaa Valley and Tripoli). But as Damascus is pressing for the removal of Yasser Arafat and for full control of the PLO forces, it is doubtful whether Syria will agree to withdraw or encourage the subsequent withdrawal of PLO units. Finally, Syria believes that Israel's present deployment along extended, temporary lines is burdensome to Israel.

Given that Syrian withdrawal is unlikely, why should Israel pull out of eastern Lebanon? I do not know of a single responsible Israeli politician who proposes that we remain on Lebanese soil in the long term. Eventually, no one would remember the reasons that brought

Israel to Lebanon, but all would be aware of our presence on territory that does not belong to us. Lebanon must not become a Vietnam.

Besides, the closeness to each other of the Israeli and Syrian forces and the presence of irregular forces could easily bring about a renewed confrontation - a third round in the war in Lebanon.

What would happen in the field should Israel leave? In my opinion, the Lebanese army and the multinational force must take the Israeli place. According to the understanding reached to the agreement between Israel and Lebanon, the multinational force (in this case, the French) is to patrol the Beirut-Damascus highway.

The multinational force, the government of Lebanon and the government of Israel must make it clear to Syria that the present Syrian front line will be viewed as a red line and that any Syrian movement westward into Lebanon will be viewed as a deliberate escalation.

As for the Chuf mountains and the Beirut area, only the Lebanese can work out rules for coexistence there. In my view it would be best for Israel to withdraw from these two regions as soon as possible, and our American friends should help establish other effective military arrangements in these two areas.

In southern Lebanon, however, Israel is faced with a serious problem. In the last year 500 of our best young men have fallen, and about 2,500 have been wounded, to ensure that Galilee will no longer be shelled by Katyusha rockets. This is a heavy and painful price. We would

naturally not wish to remove our army from the security belt of southern Lebanon without ensuring peace for Galilee. But here again we cannot involve ourselves in a situation in which we attempt to control the lives of another people.

Luckily, in this region as well, there is a reasonable though imperfect alternative: reinforcing the forces of Major Haddad. These forces are composed today of regular units (about 1,100 soldiers) and of a rural militia (about 600 men). The addition of several hundred more soldiers would enable Major Haddad to establish order in the region, while the UNIFIL forces that are already stationed in the area can be concentrated at the entrance to the Palestinian refugee camps in order that no harm should come to them.

The Lebanese army can also help in this region, primarily in the northern part - an arrangement that is already stipulated by the Israel-Lebanon agreement. Israel itself would of course continue to keep an eye on what happens in this area on its northern border. The defence of this region can thus be organized within two to three months, allowing Israeli soldiers to come home without sacrificing Israel's security.

We must pursue decolonization in Lebanon. A temporary arrangement that perpetuates unnecessary military dangers without advancing our political goals serves no one in the long run.

The author is leader of the Israeli Labour Party.

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Bernard Levin: The way we live now



How Garland saw Labour's turmoil in this week's *Sunday Telegraph*

that the Labour Party has now reached a point at which, if Mrs Thatcher accidentally started the Third World War - indeed, if she deliberately started the Third World War - the response of the Opposition's leaders would be to blame one another for it and to use their next party political broadcast for an appeal to the nation to rally round a programme of more nationalization, withdrawal from the EEC and a substantial increase in the powers and legal immunities of the trade unions.

Have you ever, in all your born days, seen anything like the way in which the leading figures in the Labour Party are now reeling about like drunks at closing time, baring one another off the pavement, vomiting over the passers-by and every now and again raising their voices in untimely song? Of course, nerves are frayed after the election defeat, with its 119 lost Labour deposits; of course Mr Foot's abrupt abandonment of the helm (everything in his political life became him like the leaving of it) has meant that the rival contenders for the succession have hardly had time to think about their own tactics, let alone the party's future; of course the *severe quiet* in the lifeboat is the fiercer if there is only one cup of water left. But though a man with a headache will certainly experience immediate relief if he cuts his throat, few doctors, however unorthodox their methods, would recommend such action by way of treatment.

It is no use telling them that if two dogs go on fighting long enough over a bone a passing cat will make off with it; the truth is that the struggle over the dying body of the Labour Party, however little significance it may have *sub specie aeternitatis*, seems to have a real meaning for those involved in it. The Labour Party must - now, not later - go in

Mr Hattersley would serve under anybody ('My friend Genghis and I have our differences, but...')

one direction or the other; it must be modern, outward-looking, fully democratic institutions, able to appeal to the voters, perception of their own and the country's interests, or it will be a group of deadbeats and fanatics, its policies increasingly remote from the real world and its attitudes increasingly totalitarian.

It is no use telling them, either, that their *severe quiet* counter-parts once faced a similar choice, chose rightly and in consequence spent more than a decade in office; when Willy Brandt addressed the Labour Party Conference and rashly expressed a belief in a West willing

to resist the Soviet Union some of them shouted "Nazi!" at him.

In fact, it is no use telling them anything now; they are going to "elect" (a fine word, I must say, for the process, riddled with corruption and intimidation, by which they are choosing their leader) a Welsh blatherkite who professes to believe - probably does believe - that the rejection of Labour in June was the result of a failure to put the party's policies effectively to the people, and not at all of any shortcomings in the policies themselves. When Mrs Thatcher contemplates what she will do to Mr Kinnoch in the House of Commons, and for that matter up and down the country, her knees must be in danger of going right through the floorboards as well.

And yet, as I say, the fanatics (though presumably not the deadbeats or the Welsh blatherkite) know all this as well as I do. They are willing to compel the party to make the wrong choice, in the belief that if they control the party they will sooner or later stumble across the threshold of government because, say, the Tories have made some huge and unforgivable blunder, whereupon we could expect this country very speedily to become as free as Bulgaria, as rich as Angola and as pleasant as the letters column of *The Guardian*.

What, then, of the rest of them, the ones who want the party to make the right choice? It is not difficult to see what they will do, for it is what they have always done in the past, and it is now more likely, not less, that they will go on doing it. It is being said that Mr Hattersley would after all refuse to serve as deputy to Mr Kinnoch, but that is great nonsense; Mr Hattersley would serve under anybody at all, including Genghis Khan ("My friend Genghis and I have our differences, but..."). Screaming Lord Sutch ("...a refreshingly original approach to politics") or the Cambridge Rapist ("I never comment on my colleagues' private lives"), for there is a catastrophe scenario for him too, in which Mr Kinnoch, moved hither and thither by the hard-faced thugs in the wings, makes such an appalling shambles of the leadership that the party will turn simultaneously to the Long Knives and Mr Hattersley.

Perhaps, perhaps not. I can contemplate with hilarity the prospects of another two and a half months of the struggle, until the results are announced at the autumn conference, but hilarity comes easily to me because I am not a supporter of the Labour Party. I doubt if many of those voters who still, however illogically, look to it for hope and succour will be laughing by the time October arrives; I doubt if many of the catastrophe scenario for him too, in which Mr Kinnoch, moved hither and thither by the hard-faced thugs in the wings, makes such an appalling shambles of the leadership that the party will turn simultaneously to the Long Knives and Mr Hattersley.

because more chilly. The trick was to be like Brutus: "His life was gentle, and the elements so mix'd in him, that Nature might stand up / And say to all the world: 'This was a man.'"

What we mean by *catharsis* is something like the purification and balancing of the emotions by vicarious experience, especially through the drama. I do not think that there is any exact translation of it. As you might expect, the term is widely and loosely used in psychotherapy, to mean something like the process of relieving an abnormal excitement by reestablishing the association of the emotion with the memory or idea of the event which was the first cause of it, and of eliminating it by abreaction.

The last question is: do we need the new word to *cathart*. Je n'en vois pas la nécessité, myself. We already have to "sublimate" if we want to use Freudian English; and to "relieve" if we want something plain and simple. It will be interesting to see whether *cathart* catches on with the trendies.

Roger Scruton

Waging war on the individual

On July 14, a Turkish diplomat, Dursun Aksoy, was gunned down in Brussels. On the next day a bomb went off in the Turkish Airlines cockpit at Orly, killing six people and injuring many more. In both cases, according to the newspapers, Armenian groups "claimed responsibility" for the outrage.

As a matter of fact, they did no such thing. The Armenians in question wished categorically to assert that they were in no way to be blamed for these deaths, that what had happened was in fact justified retribution, that the crowds at Orly, like Mr Aksoy, were not the innocent victims of atrocity, but "legitimate targets" in a war of just revenge.

This revanchist excuse for bloodshed expresses a peculiar and horrible corruption. But like many forms of moral corruption, it has its origins in sentiments that are inescapable and pure. Those who feel proud of their country may feel rightly proud; and yet they assert, through their feeling, a certain responsibility, which links them equally to their ancestors and to their descendants. Those who accuse a nation of injustice, or praise it for its virtue, likewise acknowledge an idea of collective liability, without which, indeed, it would be impossible to understand either the present world of politics, or the past history of mankind.

It is a small step from these innocent-seeming ideas of collective identity, to the sinful thoughts which animate the Armenian revanchist. For him, the collective responsibility of the Turkish people is born individually by every living Turk. The individual is blamed for actions in which no living individual had a hand, and becomes the butt of an anger which no single person could either soften or deserve. When broad feelings towards a collective become so narrowly focused, their violence is annihilating. The victim is stripped bare of every right, for he is a mere symbol of collective guilt. He becomes an abstraction, who has already ceased to exist in the eyes of his pursuer, and who therefore calls in vain for mercy.

Revanchism is one of many depraved habits of thought which have proved useful in justifying murder. All such habits share the feature to which I have alluded: they turn the individual into an abstraction, so that he may bear responsibility for collective faults. He ceases to be a human being, and becomes instead a type, like the racial degenerate of Hitler, or the "class enemy" of Lenin, Stalin and Pol Pot.

Terrorists often claim to be fighting wars, and to be doing no more than is necessary in war. This is nonsense. War is certainly the natural expression of collective resentment; but it occurs between organized groups, and is fought openly, against a collective enemy. It is possible to fight a war with undiminished respect for the rights of the enemy individual. Indeed, that is the duty of every soldier. But

the terrorist must disregard this duty, and disobey the law of war. His feelings towards the individual are abolished by his loathing of the group, and it is this - rather than his cowardice, cruelty or impenetrable hate - that constitutes his true moral corruption.

There can be collective responsibility only where there is collective agency - that is, only where a group exists which can be praised or blamed for its collective actions. The worst crimes in history have been committed against groups which, because they could not act collectively, could not reasonably be resented. Hence the obnoxiousness of racism. "Races" are not agents, and cannot bear collective responsibility for the faults or actions of their members. People act collectively only through institutions, and whatever a "race" may be, it is not an institution, since no one may join or leave it.

The primary institution in international politics is the state, and it is the state - rather than "the people", "the race", or "the nation" - which bears the burden of collective blame.

This last fact is evident to students of international law, and would be equally evident to everyone, were it not for the fact that the state is too cold, too legal and too inhuman a thing to attract the full fury of human resentments. How much more satisfying it is to punish a people, or a race, than to punish a legal fiction!

The Armenian revanchists claim that - during the strife which preceded the final dissolution of the Ottoman Empire - large numbers of Armenians living in central and eastern Turkey were massacred by Ottoman Turks. The facts are disputed, and it seems probable that many of the Armenian claims are exaggerated. But suppose they are right. Who is to blame?

The answer, I believe, is: "No one living". And that answer is the one that can be rationally supported. The modern Turkish state, which deliberately turned its back on the old Ottoman Empire, no more existed at the time of these events than the individuals who are now gunned down in pointless retribution. And yet the Turkish state is the only collective agency which could possibly bear the guilt.

Of course, such thoughts can do nothing to soften the sentiments of the revanchist, which are necessary to his identity, and enjoyable in themselves, to be modified by reasoned argument. If they should perhaps lead us to ourselves who are really behind the actions? Who really stands to gain from crimes which jeopardize lives and property of the Armenians, and which paralyze efforts of Turkey to retain effective diplomatic relations with its ally? Certainly not the Armenians who have settled abroad, into lives which are far more comfortable than anything that they might prefer in Turkey.

The author is editor of the *Salisbury Review*.

Alastair Brett

One way out of the Fleet Street jungle

The dispute which is holding up publication of the *Financial Times* drags on. Twenty-four men are at the core of the argument and they are, in the process, threatening the 37 total of 1,500 jobs. The time for drastic rethinking may be imminent if the pink paper is not to topple into the abyss of company closures and widespread redundancies.

The newspaper industry is devouring ever larger sums from the coffers of otherwise successful conglomerates. Senior executives throughout Fleet Street will clearly have to consider radical new ways of running a labour-intensive production line industry if "free collective bargaining" is not to remain little more than the law of the jungle.

One radical but possible solution to the Russian roulette of pay bargaining in Fleet Street - or any troubled production-line industry - would be to put all the assets of a strife-torn or ailing company (the title, the printing presses, vans, building and equipment) into a small asset-holding company which would then lease these assets to the old company which would be left as a self-regulating, labour-intensive publishing company. The old company would then be reconstituted along John Lewis Partnership lines (where power rests with a chairman and board of directors answerable to the workforce) and left to sort out its own pay differentials and manning levels, which would be geared to greater or smaller profits.

By dividing capital and labour into two separate companies and setting up a leasing arrangement between the two, the parent company would have neatly divested itself of the appalling problem of leapfrogging pay claims in a multi-union industry while retaining direct control of its assets. By leaving the work force to regulate itself and elect its own professional management and editorial staff, it would be utilizing some of the best elements in a "management buy-out" but without forcing senior staff to find large sums in order to purchase the company's assets, or leaving itself with the heartache of selling a national newspaper to an untried, untested company.

Central to the continued relationship between the labour-intensive publishing company and the small asset-holding company would be a leasing agreement containing vari-

ous stringent terms and conditions about the quality of the paper, editorial independence, a return on the capital leased and binding formulae for the division of the newspaper's revenue among its constituent elements of the workforce - journalists, printers and clerical staff - after payment of company's overheads. Breach of any of these conditions would allow the asset-holding company to repossess its assets or stop publication of the paper until the labour-intensive publishing company had put house in order.

Without certain financial guarantees for the fledgling publishing company during a three- or five-year transitional phase, the Fleet Street unions would almost certainly be violently opposed to such a scheme. However, given careful financial backing and faced with a stark choice of participating in a venture or permanent closure even those unions might be persuaded to cooperate in such a venture. Crucial to the whole operation, however, would be the need to retain professional management, albeit answerable to the work force, and an incentive-based car structure within the John Lewis style publishing company in order to avoid the stigma of a neo-political experiment like Tony Benn's brave but unsuccessful attempt to save ailing *Scottish Daily News* six years ago by turning it into socialist-oriented cooperative.

Without bold new ideas and far-reaching initiatives, the qual patches of Fleet Street may still lie the pressure if the recession continues. The two-company lease-back arrangement offers a possible way out of the industrial jungle Fleet Street. It brings some of the highest-paid printers in the country face to face with the concept of restraint, the art of self-management and the need to adapt in a changing world. At the same time it requires the press barons to reduce their grip on the media, restrict themselves to a limited return on their capital and experiment. If such an experiment were tried, but then failed, the gas would still be there to be sold. If experiment succeeded, and the company leaseback arrangement were made to work, an exciting new world would have been pioneered. British industry.

The author is a solicitor and LE Assistant to The Times.

Trendies, read on

New words for old/ Philip Howard

been recorded in the latest dictionaries and word-lists of new English.

The second question to ask is: the new word properly and decently derived? The answer is: up to a point, Lord Copper. It would be more correct to write "to cathartize"; but I can see that that might have a medical ring, and would not make the connexion with catharsis.

The next question is: does the new word mean what the writer thinks it means? Now there is a question for you. Catharsis comes from one of the most influential and disputed passages in ancient literature, Aristotle's untranslatable definition of tragedy: "Tragedy is an action that represents a serious attention, complete in itself, and of some amplitude... by means of pity and fear bringing about the *catharsis* of such emotions". Many books could be written, and indeed have been written, about what Aristotle meant

by the principal words in that sentence.

Dr Johnson took *cathartice* in a basic way, with a powerful essay about digestion: "The vermicular or peristaltic motion of the guts continually helps on their contents, from the pylorus to the rectum..." I do not think that Aristotle meant by *catharsis* purgation in such an extremal way.

Why should we want our emotions to be evacuated like waste products? Aristotle was a physician's son, and he was probably thinking of the conventional medical wisdom of his day, in which *catharsis* meant not purgation in the modern sense, but partial removal of excess humours. A healthy man or woman had a well-balanced idiosyncrasy. Pity was thought of as wet, as in tears, or the centre and left in politics. Fear was thought of as excess of cold. Aristotle opined that old gentlemen are more timid,



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PARTY IN THEIR POWER

The Parliamentary Labour Party came into being as the Parliamentary expression of organised labour. The Labour Party's relationship with the trade union movement has thus been central to the history of Labour politics. It remains so today with the Party, in its post-election travail, struggling to discover not just a new leader, but a basis for new hope.

For the trade union movement the high point of its relationship with the Parliamentary Labour Party must have been the Labour government of 1974-1976. Mr Foot, the retiring leader, was then Secretary of State for Employment. It was his task to express in legislation the aspirations of the trade union movement. He worked more closely with Mr Jack Jones than any Minister had done before, probably even in time of war. The thrust of policy during that government was determined largely by Congress House. It was to all intents the trade unions' government; and not a success. That period witnessed a huge increase in inflation, and the experiment petered out in December 1976 with the arrival of the IMF.

None of the four would-be successors to Mr Foot, who have now all written their testaments in *The Times*, has recalled that experiment with any enthusiasm. Only Mr Eric Heffer has suggested that disaster would have been averted if it moved away from the unions.

Labour's relationship with the trade unions has hitherto enabled it to embrace both the aspirations of the organized working class and the tastes of the secular Left. They are not often synonymous, but the party's decline has accelerated as the gap between working class voters and the ethos of secularism has widened.

Each candidate has merits and demerits, but there is a clear

division of philosophy between them. On the one hand, Mr Hattersley and Mr Shore feel that the Party should respond more to the evidence of its falling support by changing its policies. On the other, Mr Kinnoch and Mr Heffer think that the policies are fundamentally sound, but have been badly presented. The first two are thus instinctively set against the system while the second two take as their starting point a basic acceptance of the system.

They are right to do so, since the Labour Party is a system which contains a whole and complicated web of inter-relationships. Its history is less about leaders than about the manoeuvring of groups within it, and the establishment of a ponderous internal structure, which carries its own penalties when a dynamic external political environment cries out for more rapid manoeuvre.

We should not be shocked at the evidence that the Labour Party is still seen by Trade Union leaders as its political form of expression, though we could be shocked at the direction in which some of those sponsors might want to take it. The aspiring leaders should be more concerned at the possibility that the trade union movement will have to reconsider that relationship because its original purpose is no longer being fulfilled. Since the formation of the first Labour government that purpose has gone beyond the demand for mere political expression. The Labour Party thereafter has had to show a realistic chance of gaining power. A tacit understanding between Congress and Transport House usually allowed the politicians the tactical freedom to manoeuvre for power, but the strategic partnership went unquestioned. That cannot be the case now.

After every Tory election victory, commentators tend to

write off the Labour Party. In this aftermath, those predictions look more menacing given the Party's decline from 29.3 per cent of the total electorate in 1979 to a figure of only 19.8 per cent today. That collapse was caused mostly by defections to the SDP. The mistake being made by Labour politicians and trade unionists is to blame those defections rather than to ask themselves why the defection occurred.

In two years' time, when Mr Tebbit's new law will make it necessary for all trade unions to reaffirm the original decision of 1913 in favour of political funds, the 60 per cent of trade unionists who do not belong to the Labour Party might cause some embarrassment to trade union leaders when contemplating that decision, if the Labour Party, who ever leads it, still looks as unprepossessing as it looks today.

Of course the government has the initiative, since voters will only feel the need to search for a viable alternative if there is a general belief that the Conservative policies are not working. That search would normally identify the Labour Party as the traditional alternative grouping. The danger for Labour now is that, regardless of who leads it, that assumption cannot be automatic even though it still has the appearance of an alternative government in the accepted structure of British politics.

The chance for the Alliance will come if Labour's decline turns into a collapse. Labour's chance to prevent that cannot be found, wholly or even primarily, in the character of any of the four candidates for leadership. It is a process which has to concern all the party's elements, of which the greatest historically and still in practice is the trade union element. The unions have the power to destroy their party utterly; do they have the creative power to inspire it as well?

RAIDING THE CUPBOARD

For the government to sell £500m extra of shares in British Petroleum, purely to keep its borrowing nearer forecast, is a cosmetic device that should fool no one, and will certainly not fool the financial markets. In strictly economic terms, it is neither better nor worse than borrowing the same amount. Indeed, it has the same monetary effect as funding the extra deficit by an issue of government gilt-edged stock - to avoid recourse to the printing press. It even taps the same £25bn flowing into the financial institutions for the purpose. Financially, such sales should therefore be treated on their merits as a fund-raising exercise and not pose as an alternative.

There is some logic in spreading the load of borrowing £7bn from a currently sceptical debt market. Building societies, often big buyers of gilt-edged stock, have been hard pressed. The cost of a loan would be more than BP dividends foregone and there is something of a lull before the big privatisation programme starts with British Telecom in autumn 1984.

But a £500m sale has more impact on the share market than the gilt-edged market at a time when booming share prices have encouraged companies to raise £500m in new risk capital last month.

The big institutions, mainly pension funds and insurance companies, put £2.5bn into new UK ordinary shares last year, less than half their investment in

government debt. Investors big or small are not indifferent between stocks and shares. So government share sales are at least as likely to crowd out private firms through lower share prices, as are gilt-edged sales which might raise long-term interest rates.

Indeed, by way of contrast, few industrial concerns have taken advantage of the gap left for them in the debt market. The series of planned transfers to the private sector will provide much more competition for private firms. But for the moment, it must be said, the biggest competition comes from abroad. New figures show that the institutions invested £1.2bn in overseas shares in the first three months of this year compared with £500m in UK ordinary shares.

From the point of view of British Petroleum and its shareholders, the move is equally unimpressive. It matters little today whether the government owns 32 per cent of BP rather than 39 per cent. The state's appointed directors are not there to influence the board in the direction of national policy, as the Rhodesian sanctions episode reminded us. Provided BP remains British, government would exercise strategic control, if need be, by general order rather than shareholder power.

Yet the heart of the matter lies not in economics, not in the mechanics of markets, but in the legitimate suspicion that the Chancellor is taking easy short-

term measures to disguise long-term budgetary problems and delay action to resolve them. As Mrs Thatcher's housewife economics might have it, the Government is selling off the family heirlooms to pay the grocery bills.

The chief grocery bill in question is the estimated £15bn a year budgetary cost of unemployment, which is undermining the Cabinet's most strenuous efforts to keep down public spending, match it with revenue, and stimulate business through low interest rates. The problem seems unlikely to go away, as the latest spending overruns suggest.

When Mrs Thatcher inaugurated her crash monetary policy against a background of high deficits, worsened by the growing world recession, it was both legitimate and desirable to cheat a little with asset sales to try to square the circle and minimize the pain of sky-high interest rates. But assets can only be sold once. There is a large but not endless supply. So this solution is not the right response to a long-running budgetary imbalance.

The City now distrusts an emergency sale of assets in place of borrowing. It feels in principle that this is simply dodging the discipline of markets, which will lend only if government carries conviction in its measures to cut spending, or pays a penalty in the form of higher interest rates. That concentrates the mind far more than reaching in the drawer to find a few more assets to make the figures come out right.

Pacific port of Sovetskaya Gavan. Together with the Soviet Far East Fleet, this route offers very advantageous rates for goods from Western Europe to Japan or Australia.

Yet this is not the result of greater Soviet efficiency. The Labour productivity of dockers in the USSR is far below Western levels. Soviet railways were in such a deplorable state that one of Mr Andropov's first acts as leader was to sack the Minister of Transport. Soviet ships stock up with subsidized fuel in their home ports and buy minimum quantities at world prices; they are built, repaired and operated on wages far below those prevailing in other countries.

The USSR gains large sums of hard currency with which to purchase advanced technology, and if the merchant fleets and shipbuilders of NATO countries go out of business because of unfair competition, there will be no tears shed in the Kremlin. A quota system to ensure reciprocity or to impose limits on the revenue earned is long overdue.

British Telecom in private hands

From the General Secretary of the Union of Communication Workers

Sir, Your editorial (July 18) on privatisation and the special reference to British Telecom has failed to follow through the logic of the argument.

Having pointed out that the result will be a private monopoly unable to be made democratically accountable to Parliament, surely you have conceded a major part of the case against such privatisation?

Surely it is no coincidence that British Telecom and now, possibly, the Post Office too, have become targets for the privatisers? They are now both profitable. For the Post Office this represents a remarkable turn-around from the deficits of the 1970s and is testimony to the efforts of all its staff. For British Telecom the explosion of communications opportunities will mean a potential pot of gold for a few lucky private investors.

Both have achieved profitability and met strict Government financial targets, without any help from Whitehall. Indeed, official limitations on borrowing and investment have restricted the ability of both businesses to modernise.

But the Government wants it both ways. When public corporations are in deficit they are portrayed as parasites living off the taxpayer. When they are profitable they are sold off. There is almost an in-built incentive to be inefficient.

If your editorial is going to promote the views of the extreme right and advocate privatisation of the Post Office, the unions and management who have co-operated in achieving the significant productivity rises of recent years (4.5 per cent in 1982-83) will take the view we are better off being inefficient.

It is time the public sector was left alone to do its job of serving the public. In the case of the Post Office this means handling some 35 million letters a day and providing a service which, although far from perfect, is the best in the world and operates without state subsidy.

In fact, the Post Office during the year contributed £56m to the Government coffers, thus meeting its imposed target in full. By comparison almost all foreign postal services are subsidised by taxpayers' money.

My members have worked hard to help the Post Office into an efficient, profitable public industry and they will fight tooth and nail if the result of their efforts is the selling off of the business.

Yours faithfully,
ALAN TUFFIN, General Secretary,
Union of Communication Workers,
Crescent Lane,
Clapham, SW4
July 20.

Mad Hatter policies

From the Acting High Commissioner for Zimbabwe

Sir, John Liddington's arguments (feature, July 19) on governments chosen by people, on planless governments and on homogeneous societies are utopian and academically weak.

The age-old disagreement on the "nature of politics", which Liddington acknowledges, results from the fact that no political philosophy is universally acceptable. He, as a political scientist, is entitled to his own definitions of politics and democracy. But they are not universal and cannot be imposed on the people of Zimbabwe. What Liddington is prescribing for Zimbabwe is a tribal conflict. This is highly objectionable.

Liddington's crime is not the weakness of his argument but the fact that he distorts the Zimbabwean political situation in a vain attempt to make his argument plausible. When ZANU-PF won a landslide victory in 1980 it could have formed a purely ZANU-PF government. It could have immediately imposed a one-party system.

But - open your eyes and see - it went much further than Liddington's limited concept of democracy. It invited other political parties to join the Government and allowed multi-racialism to set in. In Parliament and in the Government, the people will vote and decide whether or not they want a one-party system.

Already merger talks between ZANU-PF and ZAPU are under way. One-party system will come to Zimbabwe through democracy and persuasion.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. KAJESE,
Zimbabwe High Commission,
429 Strand, WC2.

Calling to account

From Mr John Parry

Sir, It is fascinating to watch Mr Roy Hattersley adopting in July such Liberal-SDP Alliance policies as an incomes policy, a coherent plan for investment and continued membership of the European Community, after having so fervently opposed them in June.

What will August bring? Yours faithfully,
JOHN PARRY,
14 Castlegate, Richmond, Surrey.

Relatively speaking

From Mr Richard Walker

Sir, Long ago we were taught that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. But when you say that I am? (Philip Howard, July 19) was emphatic rather than interrogatory; somewhat like (if one may say so) without offence to either party) "Moi, de Gaulle", or that famous occasion in Rheims when the culprit, being revealed, the monks and friars, heedless of grammar, all cried "That's him!"

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD WALKER,
Surrey Cottage,
62 Maltravers Street,
Arundel, West Sussex.

Economic upturn without inflation

From Professor Roy Gregory

Sir, "No one knows", observes Professor Wynne Godley (July 20), what would happen to inflation if sustained recovery were to occur and unemployment reduced significantly, but there is a fair chance it would accelerate again. This prospectus surely does less than justice to the hidden, though not particularly well hidden, rationale underlying the Government's overall strategy.

Why should inflation accelerate if there were a sustained recovery? In part, presumably, because under conditions of fuller employment trade union bargaining power is enhanced and employees are in a position to exert increased pressure on employers.

The answer to that problem is to anticipate it: you modify the law so as to diminish union control over the supply of labour, make picketing less effective, curtail immunities, and reduce the influence of their more militant members. And, unlike the Wilson and Heath governments of the late 1960s and early 1970s, which sought to limit the power of organized labour at a time when the unions were at the height of their strength and self-confidence, you take full advantage of their current weakness to truss them up when they are least able to resist.

Of course, this strategy for achieving economic recovery without inflation would not, of itself, provide a permanent solution, since a future Labour government might repeal the recent and proposed changes in trade union law. This possibility cannot be ruled out. But it can be significantly reduced by including within the package of statutory changes new requirements, the effect of which will almost certainly be to diminish the financial support the unions can give the one

Afghan conflict

From Mr M. A. Naim

Sir, As an Afghan, I would like to comment on the report in *The Times* (July 11) that the "jigsaw of an agreement" on the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan was missing a "wholly crucial piece" - an indication by the Russians of the schedule they have in mind for withdrawal.

The question at issue is the armed uprising of the Afghan nation against circumstances created by the Soviet intervention in our country's internal affairs and subsequently her naked invasion.

The nature of this question is purely political. The problems of refugees or any other human factors are its aftermath. Any attempt to resolve the aftermath without serious consideration to the core of the conflict is fruitless, unjust, irrational, and unyielding of any positive results.

The confronting sides of the Afghan conflict - Russia, and the entire people of Afghanistan - are not represented at the Geneva indirect talks. The Karmal regime has neither the authority nor the ability to represent the Afghan nation.

Without consultation, consent and participation of the Afghan nation through their elected representatives, any solution imposed or guaranteed by outside interests is

Divorce reform

From Mr Martin Meads

Sir, The letter from retired County Court Judge Lyall Wilkes (July 14) illustrates very well the judicial prejudice and irrationality which have brought the law to its present unsatisfactory and unjust state.

In arguing for the retention of the present male ticket for life principle, Judge Wilkes talks of "the husband who made his marriage vows for life" being "allowed or encouraged to free himself of all obligation to his wife after the wife's period of rehabilitation is ended". He goes on to deplore the possibility that a divorced husband might be allowed "to pretend that his mistake never happened or should have no unpleasant long-term consequences".

All this might be to the point if the principles on which matrimonial provision is awarded were fault-based. It might then be proper for the court to say to the husband: "You have behaved badly and now we are going to make you pay".

The fact is, however, that since the Court of Appeal decision in *Wachtel v Wachtel* in 1972, the courts have said that, in general, the conduct of the parties is not to be taken into account in deciding what financial provision should be made in divorce cases.

What is offensive to the majority of people is that the divorced wife retains her meal ticket even if it was her conduct which brought about the breakdown of the marriage and the husband had behaved impeccably.

Yours truly,
MARTIN MEADS,
Old Rectory,
Huddersfield,
North Yorkshire,
July 14.

Solicitors' charges

From Mr N. S. Price

Sir, One point in particular made by the President of the Law Society (July 15) deserves further comment. Mr Hewitson says that solicitors provide a "broad range of services for both rich and poor". This is not entirely accurate.

At one end of the scale large and prosperous firms of solicitors provide excellent and expensive services to the City and to industry; at the bottom end some firms and neighbourhood law centres provide services to the underprivileged for significantly lower rewards, and gradation of levels of service and cost lies in between.

So far as the poor are concerned, particular problems present themselves: firstly the unsurprising

political party which, in office, might indeed bring in new legislation designed to restore their bargaining power.

It may well be, of course, that nothing else curbs trade union power as effectively as does unemployment. In face of market forces legal constraints may prove ineffectual. But to imply that the Government has no strategy for dealing permanently with the problem of recovery-generated inflation is not to see the picture whole.

Yours faithfully,
ROY GREGORY,
Department of Politics,
Faculty of Letters and Social Sciences,
University of Reading,
Whiteknights,
Reading,
July 21.

From Mr V. D. Dennison

Sir, "The private sector had borne the brunt of the recession and made significant cuts in manpower and substantial improvements in productivity" (report of CBI statement, July 21).

These significant cuts in manpower are then transferred to the Government's unemployment payroll. Is it any wonder that "Government spending's share of the nation's total output had risen from 41 to 44 per cent"? And if Government's spending is cut, who is going to buy the products of our wonderfully efficient industry - the robots who make them?

Your very puzzled one-time graduate of LSE,
VIC DENNISON,
Heathcote,
The Bath,
Churchill,
Bristol,
Avon,
July 21.

doomed to failure. The people of Afghanistan did not create the present conflict and they have no obligation to take the first step towards a political solution.

If the USSR prefers any political solution, she should take the first positive step in this direction by withdrawing her troops totally and unconditionally. She should pledge not to interfere in Afghanistan's internal affairs; cease to support the Karmal or any similar regime in Kabul, and respect the right of the Afghan nation to determine its political, social, economic and cultural destiny.

If a political solution to the Afghan question through the UN is desired, then the present procedure should be altered. Its international dimensions require an international conference, under the auspices of the UN. Participants at the conference, (as proposed by Mr Pazhwak, a former veteran Afghan diplomat) should be representatives of the people of Afghanistan, permanent members of the Security Council, Afghanistan's neighbouring countries, and a number of member nations of the UN from all continents, with special regard to the non-aligned and Islamic countries, under the good office of the UN Secretary-General.

Yours faithfully,
M. A. NAIM,
103d Greenacre Gardens, NW6,
July 14.

tendency of solicitors to concentrate themselves in areas of greater prosperity, and secondly the failure of many to appreciate their rights and to seek advice from lawyers in the first place. As Lord Justice Mathew once said, Justice, like the Ritz, is open to all, but the advent of legal aid has not meant that this aphorism has lost its force. For many a subsidy would not make the Ritz any more accessible or welcoming.

In the long term what is obviously required is a national legal service providing a floor of rights in respect of various legal services for all, through an expanded network of law centres, to be financed from taxation. This idea must await, no doubt, the resources and the will to achieve it. It is probably anathema to the Law Society, who are after all the solicitors' trade union, much as the National Health Service was to the BMA, the doctors' trade union, and no doubt for similar reasons.

Plus ça change... Yours faithfully,
N. S. PRICE,
University of Buckingham,
Buckingham,
July 15.

Crime and punishment

From Sir John Dilke

Sir, When we were very young we were told that in the old days when prisons became overcrowded the judges were sent into the provinces with commissions of gaol delivery. We understood that to mean that when the judges reached their destinations they divided prisoners into three categories: (1) those who had better remain; (2) those who had better be released; and (3) those who had better be despatched to the next world.

We should not lightly disregard the practices of those ages, for they did produce Magna Carta.

Yours truly,
JOHN DILKE,
Ludgate,
Ealingham,
Sussex,
July 16.

From Dr George Bailey
Sir, It is understandable that some new MPs are now accused of deception. Within weeks of pledging support for capital punishment and so being selected as Tory candidates, they have voted against the death penalty. Rightly they will face strong calls for compulsory re-election - as practised by Labour.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE BAILEY,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1,
July 19.

Night thoughts on farm noise

From Mr Richard Maslen

Sir, It would be interesting to know how long Mr Bertram (July 22) has been living in his present home, but it is a reasonable assumption that the farmstead next door pre-dates his house. It is a corollary of living within 25 feet of an arable field that, for a very few hours per year there will be disturbance from some more or less noisy and dusty cultivations and harvesting. Presumably the purpose of harvesting the rape seed at night was to make the most of the fine weather before it broke.

Millions of people live a similar distance from roads, railways or factories where there is noise and dirt and atmospheric pollution all or most of the time. Mr Bertram should appreciate that farming is also an industry, not just a picturesque backdrop, and involves certain energetic operations. Like other industries, farming has also to be profitable to survive.

Generally speaking, farmers are reasonable people who wish to maintain good relations with their neighbours. The fact that Mr Bertram's neighbour was prepared to forgo night harvesting in deference to his wishes indicates this. Is it not up to people who choose to live next door to farms to accept that brief spells of reasonable disturbance are an essential accompaniment of the peace and beauty which reigns during the rest of the year?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD MASLEN,
Director of Information,
The National Farmers' Union,
Agriculture House,
Knightsbridge,
July 22.

Beresford Hope silver

From Mr Lewis Massey

Sir, As a footnote to Roger Boyes's article (July 8), and *The Times* today (July 18), it may be of interest to record that the Buenos Aires cup itself, together with two or three silver-gilt ice buckets, and some silver entrée dish covers, were in fact resold to the Embassy by a Polish "dealer", who came to the Embassy in the autumn of 1946.

As the only member of the Embassy staff who was bilingual in English and Polish, it fell to me to conduct negotiations with the man under the guidance of Mr (now Sir) John Russell, the Head of Chancery, and the Ambassador, Mr Victor Cavendish-Bentinck.

From some notes in my possession I see that the man demanded \$1,000 for the lot, not an excessively large sum in days when the pound was worth \$4. The Ministry of Public Building and Works, the legal custodian of embassy furniture, readily agreed to the figure demanded.

However, even before the money changed hands, the dealer asked me to collect the items from his flat, but to come alone and after dark. I well remember the evening in late November, 1946, when I drove through the pitch dark streets of Warsaw (most of which was in ruins after the ravages of the Warsaw Rising and its aftermath) to a flat in a comparatively undamaged part of the city near Okęcie airport.

All went smoothly, and I brought the items (all of them in surprisingly good condition) back to the Embassy. Yours faithfully,
LEWIS MASSEY,
20 Orchard Road,
Groombridge,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent,
July 18.

BR's conversion study

From Sir Alfred Sherman

Sir, Your Transport Editor writes (July 19) that Sir Alan Walters and I are "generally regarded as enemies of the railways". This is utter nonsense. How can anyone, least of all a former head of the World Bank's transport section, be an enemy of a transport system? And how can anyone in his right mind believe this? Had your correspondent the professional gumption to get in touch with me before writing, he would have learned that our objective is the optimization of resource allocation, with BR playing its part.

Your correspondent does Sir Peter Parker an injustice in suggesting that the aim of this study is to "defuse the issue" - i.e. dissimulate. The group's aim is to ascertain whether practicable schemes can be worked out which would produce relief roads to the benefit of passengers, hauliers and the public suffering from congested streets, without detriment to necessary rail services. We hope to succeed.

Yours faithfully,
ALFRED SHERMAN,
10 Gerald Road, SW1,
July 19.

Intimations of mortality

From Mr L. A. Latham

Sir, I wonder how many of your male readers of my (1913) generation have had to steel themselves in shops against the iron kindness of the slightly younger (but quite wonderful) wife?

In the manner of their kind, they march us unwillingly into various emporia to see us fitted into coats, trousers and the like, and stand back with pride to declare sepulchrally: "That should see you out!"

Such doom-laden suggestions are perhaps merely a speciality of the rightly thrifty but devoted Yorkshire spouse, but family doctors, and even undertakers, ought perhaps to accompany the condemned on such occasions?

Yours sincerely,
L. A. LATHAM,
49 Scarsdale Villas, W8,
July 18.

RED BOTTOMS ON BLUE WATER

It is high time that the major trading nations agreed on a united policy to deal effectively with the problem of cut-price Soviet transport. It might seem absurd to claim that the USSR threatens the West by offering to deliver goods more cheaply than privately owned shipping companies, but Soviet undercutting of commercial shipping rates is not, in fact, an argument for the benefits of state control and large-scale, centralized operations.

Certainly the scale of Soviet merchant shipping is impressive. In two decades the USSR has increased its tonnage six times, rising from fourteenth place to sixth in world ranking - surpassing the United States - and in actual numbers can claim to have the largest merchant navy in the world. Nor can the thoroughness of state control and centralization be doubted. The Minister of the Merchant Fleet, Timofei Guzenko, and Minister of Shipbuilding, Mikhail Egorov, cooperate closely under Politburo direction with Admiral Gorskoy of the Soviet Navy.

Particularly significant is the growth in the number of roll-on-roll-off vessels and "lash" freighters which can store fully loaded barges in their holds, avoiding the need for major port installations. Both types are highly suitable for military operations, unloading tanks and landing craft with considerable gains in speed and surprise. Fishing boats and oceanographic research vessels contribute substantially to Soviet military intelligence gathering. Naval strategists in Moscow were greatly impressed by Britain's use of merchant shipping in the Falklands operations, but have themselves developed precise plans for the wartime role of each Soviet vessel, which go far beyond makeshift British efforts.

Soviet nuclear-powered ice-breakers now keep the Northern Sea Route open for longer periods than ever before. The Trans-Siberian railway which already takes much business from Western shipping companies is now being extended with the construction of the Baikal-Amur railway running north of Lake Baikal to the



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
July 25: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this evening attended a Gala Charity Concert at the Hexagon, Reading.
Her Royal Highness was received on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the Royal County of Berkshire (Colonel the Hon Gordon Palmer).
Mrs Andrew Feilden was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
July 25: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon was present this evening at a performance by the Royal Ballet at the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, held in aid of the International Council of Museums Foundation.

Luncheons
British Council
J. M. Mitchell, Assistant Director-General of the British Council, was host at a luncheon held yesterday at 10 Spring Gardens in honour of Professor R. E. Corbett.

Royal Overseas League
The chairman, Sir David Scott, and members of the central council of the Royal Overseas League entertained at luncheon yesterday at Overseas House the High Commissioner for Uganda and Mrs Arvin.

Weavers' Company
The Bailiffs, Wardens and Court of Assistants of the Weavers' Company entertained members of the livery and their ladies at luncheon yesterday at the Savoy Hotel.

Memorial service
Professor L. P. Pugh
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Professor Leslie Pugh was held yesterday at the Church of St Michael and All Angels, Horsted Parva, East Sussex, Canon C. J. Peters, who officiated and gave an address, was assisted by the Rev Simon Holland, Dr Peter Storie-Pugh, son, read the lesson. Other readings were given by Professor E. J. Southey, Cambridge University School of Veterinary Medicine, and Mr Alastair Porter, Secretary and Registrar of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Latest appointments
Latest appointments include: Mr G. E. Gamble, chief legal adviser, Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, to be replaced by Mr Charles Davis, who will be retiring at the end of October.

Church news
Latest appointments include: The Rev J. M. Allen, Vicar of St Mary, Bournemouth, and Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Bournemouth, to be replaced by the Rev N. D. Evans, Secretary of the Diocese of Salisbury, to be replaced by the Rev J. M. Allen, Vicar of St Mary, Bournemouth, and Canon of St Mary's Cathedral, Bournemouth.

Finningley award
RAF Finningley, South Yorkshire, one of the forces' main training stations, has been awarded the 1982 Wilkinson "sword of peace" for sustained and imaginative humanitarian and charitable efforts.

Science report
Adding the human touch
By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Although progress has been made in developing computers with a limited form of speech, scientists are a long way from making a machine that speaks even a modest range of human conversational ability. In fact, they are still trying to make the voice sound more human.

However, there are research groups in which electronic engineers, mathematicians and experts in linguistics are collaborating to find out how to convert into a computer program such speech complexities as phonemes (small blocks of words that form sounds) and prosody (the intonation changes in pitch, intensity and duration that colour the words themselves).

The latter characteristic would determine whether the voice was male or female and the local dialect being imitated.

A review of the research into the use of microcomputers for analysing the components of language and speech, as a precursor to

building machines that can talk or sing with human naturalness, is contained in the monthly publication of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, *Science* 82.

Professor Jonathan Allen, a research worker at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, says that although computers continue to become faster and more powerful, they can speak only when told explicitly and precisely how. Therein lies the difficulty, Professor Allen says: "We speak, we hear, yet we understand how so poorly."

English learning to speak combinations of about 45 phonemes to create more than 200,000 words. Yet speech synthesisers which endeavour to link strings of phonemes together produce the mechanical and stiff sounds which are becoming commonplace on machines such as video games and automatic vending machines.

To come to terms with the subtleties, the investigators are using computer analysers to scrutinise the speech of men and women in the minutest detail.

Just as a single note on the violin is a fundamental tone of, say, for an A, 440 cycles per second, but mixed with overtones of 880 cycles, 1,320 cycles and more, so the sound wave of a single phoneme represents a fundamental frequency with many overtones.

With the results of these analyses, the engineers and linguistic specialists are testing sets of rules that they believe the brain uses in processing sound. But those rules have to incorporate the even more confusing features of prosody with its countless changes in pitch, intensity and timing, and all the nuances they contain.

It is the difference between the man I saw; the man I saw; and the man I saw.

The Judicial Committee also allowed the ship managers' cross appeal against the Court of Appeal's refusal to allow claims of the shipowners as plaintiffs against the consignees. The Court of Appeal, allowing in part an appeal from Mr Commissioner Mayo, had held that the shipowners' claims against the consignees were time-barred but that those against the insurers were not.

Mr Ian Hunter, QC and Mr Roderick Cordara for the consignees and insurers; Mr Kenneth Rokison, QC and Mr David Grace for the ship managers.

LORD DIPLOCK said that on October 25, 1972, the Potosi Chau carrying general cargo from the Far East to Jeddah, Hodeidah, Aden and Bombay ran aground on the north east coast of Somalia. Salvage operations began on October 30. Those included jettison of large quantities of cargo and continued until November 30 when the ship reached Aden.

The Aden cargo was released to its consignees on their signing average bonds in the usual Lloyd's form, some secured by cash deposits, the majority secured by letters of "guarantee" from the cargo insurers. In January and February 1973 the rest of the cargo reached its several destinations. It was released to its consignees in similar terms respecting average bonds and cargo insurers' guarantees.

The ship was found to be a constructive total loss. In August 1977 the average adjustment and statement were published. They showed a substantial general average contribution to be due from the consignees of the cargo.

In October 1978 the ship managers as sole plaintiffs issued a specially endorsed writ against the consignees and cargo insurers claiming their respective proportions of general average adjustment (ascertained and adjusted in

Forthcoming marriages

Mr P. Brazel
The engagement is announced between Peter, son of the late Mr Benedict Brazel, and Mrs Mary Margaret Smith, of Lyndhurst, South Australia, and Lucinda Maria, only daughter of Lord and Lady Stanley of Alderley, of Rectory Farm, Stanton St John, Oxford.

Mr N. S. G. Smith
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr Roy and Dame Margaret Smith, of Hove, Sussex, and Mrs Mary Leyburn, North Yorkshire, and Lavinia, youngest daughter of Mrs V. B. MacArthur, of Shaverton Hall, Daventry, Northants, and the late Captain D. J. MacArthur.

Mr El-H. H. Abdelhak
The engagement is announced between El-Hachemi Hamid, son of M. and Mme A. Abdelhak, of Algiers, and Deborah Anne, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs C. J. Barwell, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, will take place in Algiers on August 3.

Dr P. Carnochan
The engagement is announced between Paul, son of Mr and Mrs E. Carnochan, of Derby, and Jennifer, daughter of Dr and Mrs R. I. Maitland, of Plymouth.

Mr C. J. Dickson
The engagement is announced between Christopher John, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Dickson, of Clayton Cottage, Preston, Lancashire, and Kathryn Margaret, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs John Hodgson, of 7 Leaden Road, Malvern, Worcestershire.

Mr S. M. Dixon
The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of Mr T. S. Dixon and Mrs I. Thomas, and Kate, elder daughter of Group Captain and Mrs K. G. Lewis.

Mr J. N. Morris
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the late Mr Colin Morris and Mrs Hedwig Morris, of 32 Bd Henri IV, 75004 Paris, and Ginny, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Patrick Hills, of Camphill, Chiddington Causeway, Kent.

Mr H. T. P. Mullens
The engagement is announced between Hugh, younger son of the Rev J. L. and Mrs Mullens, of Tonbridge, Wells, and Helen, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. Dampney, of Cranborne, Dorset.

Mr N. W. A. Goddard
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Mr and Mrs J. W. H. Goddard, of North Cerney, Gloucestershire, and Catherine, younger daughter of the Rev H. F. and Mrs Knight, of Adderbury, Oxfordshire.

Mr C. A. Gregory
The engagement is announced between Clive Andrew, younger son of Mr and Mrs R. W. Gregory, of South Molton, North Devon, and Michelle Elizabeth, younger daughter of the Rev D. R. and Mrs Jones, of Blandford Forum, Dorset.

Mr R. J. W. Henry
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr and Mrs R. J. W. Henry, of Peasarth, South Glamorgan, and Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs W. P. H. Harty, of Biddenham, Bedfordshire.

Mr R. C. Ribbeck
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Norman Ribbeck, of Chester, and Penelope, daughter of Mr and Mrs Stephen Schilz, of Bromsgrove, Worcestershire.

Mr W. J. Oldacre
The engagement is announced between Tom, only son of Mr Oliver Prior and the late Mrs Ann Prior, of Eaton Road, Norwich, and Gillian, only daughter of Mrs Pauline Foster Ward and the late Mr James Foster Ward, of Little Aston Park, West Midlands.

Mr T. C. L. Prior
The engagement is announced between Tom, only son of Mr Oliver Prior and the late Mrs Ann Prior, of Eaton Road, Norwich, and Gillian, only daughter of Mrs Pauline Foster Ward and the late Mr James Foster Ward, of Little Aston Park, West Midlands.

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THE ARTS

Galleries: John Russell Taylor visits current shows in Edinburgh

Spirited reactions to the lure of London



Orchardson's *Her Mother's Voice* (exhibited 1888): an anglicization all too successful?

Consistency in inconsistency: Knox's *In the Cafeteria of the Stedelijk* (1974)

Master Class
National Gallery of Scotland

The Edinburgh Group
City Art Centre

Jack Knox
Fruitmarket

It is upon, ignored or merely ambitious beyond the confines of their immediate society, Scottish artists in the nineteenth century tended to head southward in search of fame and fortune. Or, if they did not, they were very likely to be left out of the history books and so virtually forgotten, even in their own country. If the same, they were usually named first in Scotland, and their work takes on new significance if seen in the context of their training, their early background and the art they left behind. A painter such as Orchardson, for example, quite deliberately moved himself to London when he was 30 and courted success at the Royal Academy; for the last 33 years of his life he even avoided altogether the sort of Scottish (and often Scott) subjects which had obsessed him when young, and did everything to seem just another, though exceptionally well patronized, English artist. And yet, for all that, he remained very much part of the distinctively Scottish tradition splendidly celebrated in the National Gallery of Scotland's major new exhibition *Master Class: Robert Scott and his pupils* (until October 1).

I begin with Orchardson because, to judge by his work, he is probably the best-

known, indeed the only really familiar, name in the show; his anglicization was all too successful perhaps. But, if the other names in the show may ring no particular bells, the images frequently do - at any rate to those old enough to remember popular history books illustrated with historical paintings like John Pettie's *The Disgrace of Cardinal Wolsey* or Robert Herdman's *Mary Queen of Scots' Farewell to France*. It was all rather what I tend to think of as the brown-Windsor-soup kind of painting, not notably dissimilar from the post-Pre-Raphaelite work of Millais; and the phantom of Millais hovers also over some of the glum Highland landscapes of these contemporary Scots. But then, of course, glum Highland landscapes are just what Millais himself was painting, and, who knows, if there is any influence at work beyond the natural influence of the terrain, it might be flowing from the pupils of Lauder to their more famous English visitor.

But who, you may well be asking, was Robert Scott Lauder? He was in many respects the most important figure in Scottish art in the generation after Wilkie. Not necessarily the best painter - his friend David Roberts, commenting on Lauder's portrait of him in oriental costume, observed significantly that it was "broad and for Lauder dashingly painted"; the implication being, correctly, that dash and flair were not normally part of Lauder's painterly equipment. Like many of those who were later to be his pupils, he had an early success in Scotland, went south and settled in London. But there wider success eluded him. The Academy snubbed him and an offer from the Trustees' Academy in Edinburgh, the first art school in Britain to be founded with public money, that he should become director of it provided him in 1852 with a dignified way out of the London rat-race.

In Edinburgh he continued to paint, but his more important role was as a teacher and encourager of young talent. No doubt he was fortunate in the amount of young talent lying around to be discovered and fostered. Probably Orchardson, McTaggart and Pettie at least would have made their way with or without him. But at the same time he seems to have been a remarkable teacher, promoting a rare sense of unity, if not of mission, among his pupils and yet leaving them the freedom to develop in their own individual directions. He seems to have handed on to Orchardson in particular the light, almost sketchy touch which was Wilkie's speciality - thereby providing a specifically Scottish continuity - but elsewhere one finds, even in early works, a hint of crisp Pre-Raphaelite finish in, say, McTaggart's *Spring of 1864*, or a cold Nazarene clarity in Herdman's portrait of his wife, c. 1857.

And where did they not go from there? Apart from London, that is, which claimed the brothers Alexander and John Bury in 1861, Orchardson and Pettie in 1862, Thomas Graham in 1863, Peter Graham in 1866 and McWhirter in 1869, leaving only McTaggart among the major figures to soldier on in Scotland. That, and the relative isolation of it, may have been the reason that of them all, McTaggart developed furthest and most unpredictably, finding his own way gradually to a sort of Impressionism pushing always, after 1900, towards the edge of abstraction. Orchardson became the Austin Dobson of painting, with the sentimental anecdotalism his subjects implied redeemed only by his evident interest in the paint first, and foremost, the story some way after. The rest developed into solid (and sometimes better than solid) late-Victorian painters of landscapes and historical or literary scenes, ripe for

the Chantry Bazaar. Later, you might hardly be conscious that they were Scottish, but during the Trustees' Academy's glorious decade under Robert Scott Lauder's rule something truly, distinctively Scottish was begun in painting, and later generations were not slow to take up the torch.

At the City Art Centre we can see where one of these later generations carried it. The Edinburgh Group, informally incorporated themselves in 1912, just 60 years after Lauder took over the Academy. A little younger than the most important of the Scottish Colourists like Fergusson and Peppie, they shared a number of their preoccupations, and the neglect into which they fell. Interest in the group has been slow in reviving, though Eric Robertson, the best known of them, has received some attention from London galleries of late (understandable considering his weird symbolism and tortured eroticism), while the sole survivor, Mary Newbery Sturrock, is still happily painting and exhibiting flower studies at the age of 91. Again, the show, in Edinburgh until Saturday, and then at Glasgow Art Gallery from August 11, is something of a rescue operation. It is a very pleasant display to visit, light and colourful and on the whole cheery (despite Robertson's taste for rather overwrought allegory). Like the *Master Class* show, it evokes first of all a vivid picture of a specific time in Scottish art-life, a shared enthusiasm and a degree of youthful eagerness which is later moderated.

It would be hard to maintain that any of those included comes within miles of being a major talent. Robertson is the most distinctive, though his exaggerations must sometimes provoke some unintended amusement. Cecil Walton, who for a while shared a stormy marriage with him, also has a real gift; but tends to be even

funnier witness *Suffer Little Children*, in which what appears to be a bearded lady pats the heads of a number of dubious moppets straight out of Christopher Robin. John Rankine Barclay's tiny *Paris* of 1911 shows a distinct Whistlerian sensitivity. Dorothy Johnstone's pictures of pubescent girls have a lot of charm, and all around there are light-filled landscapes it would be a pleasure to have over the road at the Fruitmarket (until August 6, and thereafter in Aberdeen, Inverness, Glasgow and Dundee), except that the group happens to be called Jack Knox. Certainly at a glance this retrospective of more than 20 years looks like a mixed show of maybe half-a-dozen artists. One minute, we get Knox as a sort of homegrown Abstract Expressionist, then as a sort of Alan Davies esoteric symbolist, then an explorer of Blackadder-like discomfulation. On one wall there is a series of paintings which contain longhand inscriptions and suggest, *Margitta Larry Rivers* and *Hockney*, though not necessarily in that order, opposite are Knox's more recent paintings, monumental still-lives which look rather like the Italian Metaphysical painters of the Twenties and Thirties. Will the real Jack Knox one of these days stand up and be recognized? Perhaps not; and perhaps it does not matter. There is a strange consistency behind the inconsistency, and abundant life throughout. Does he contradict himself? Very well, then, he contradicts himself.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

New aspirations

Dreamtigger
ICA

The small Seminar Room at the ICA was overflowing for Sunday night's concert in the invaluable *Musica* series, which aims to give a hearing to music neglected by the ordinary run of contemporary concert-hall judges. Though it seemed to be awkwardly for the instrument, Saram played it with remarkable command, and even managed to extract pizzicato harmonics from his cello.

Earlier, Reeve's *La Chasse de la flamme*, with its fitting, half-heard piano chords, had proved quietly hypnotic. Finally, Douglas Young joined Peter Hill for a tempestuous two-piano piece, *Regiones* by Reinhard Febel, which started as if it was going to be an unfolding bit of phase-music but through its shimmering, overlapping second movement and tempestuously noisy finale came to sound like a very curious transference back to live keyboards of an electronically-manipulated piano piece.

that the clarinet itself seemed to be aspiring to new life. Stephen Reeve's *De la grande thèse de la petite-fille de Tchaïkovski* - three sections from a longer cello solo - was given its first performance by Rohan de Saram. I liked the simplest moments best: the gently dancing harmonics of the "vénération pacifique" and "vénération saignée" were most effective. Though it seemed to be awkwardly for the instrument, Saram played it with remarkable command, and even managed to extract pizzicato harmonics from his cello. Earlier, Reeve's *La Chasse de la flamme*, with its fitting, half-heard piano chords, had proved quietly hypnotic. Finally, Douglas Young joined Peter Hill for a tempestuous two-piano piece, *Regiones* by Reinhard Febel, which started as if it was going to be an unfolding bit of phase-music but through its shimmering, overlapping second movement and tempestuously noisy finale came to sound like a very curious transference back to live keyboards of an electronically-manipulated piano piece.

Nicholas Kenyon

Von Otter/Lidiard
Wigmore Hall

As the winner of last year's Benson and Hedges "Gold Award" for singers, Anne Sophie von Otter had a programme to herself on Sunday night which confirmed her mezzo-soprano versatility. A tall, slim figure, she has already been engaged as a future Cherubino at Covent Garden, and in a range of songs through five languages she has the exceptionally sensitive support of Pamela Lidiard at the piano; an accompanist new to me, of thoughtful musical partnership.

While it was graceful of the singer to include "The Sally Gardens" and other arrangements of English folksongs by Benjamin Britten, I was greatly taken by three songs by the sea in her native Swedish, composed by Gösta Nystroem, who died in 1966. These have a wonderfully evocative character through their music, and in her sense of poetic vision and warmth of phrasing Miss von Otter was a worthy successor to her fellow-countrywoman Kerstin Meyer, who also used to sing them.

In two groups of French songs, the *Chansons de Bilitis* of Debussy found the singer unduly conversational in some of the verbal phrasing but Poulenc's *Banalités* were characterized with eloquent charm

and diverting spirit. She nicely caught the languorous sweetness of "Hotel" and the allusive humour of "Voyage à Paris", and the more searching sentiments of "Sanglots" were expressively realized in association with the vivid piano writing.

Another Scandinavian excursion into four Sibelius songs, sorrowful and rapturous by turns, the singer ended with an assortment from Hugo Wolf that reflected her sensitivity to word and phrase. In "Auch kleine Dinge" and "Du denkst mit einem Fädchen", both from the *Italian Songbook*, she was charmingly persuasive, and the concluding "Storchenschnäbelchen", though more cautiously delivered, had a beguiling sense of amusement.

Noël Goodwin

Janacek and Sibelius are the featured composers in the third and final season of South Bank Summer Music under the artistic directorship of Simon Rattle, which runs from August 14 to 28. The programme opens with a concert performance of Janacek's early opera *Oná (Fate)* - the first time the work will have been heard complete in this country - and later there will be the rare opportunity of hearing all seven of Sibelius's symphonies within a fortnight. Other events include the world premiere of Oliver Knussen's *Atarhien*.

Opera

Nolan's visual blaze

Travatore
Sydney

If too few operas are stamped in the public mind through visual impact, singers, conductors and directors have each in an undominated operatic production. But perhaps the time of the artist and painter is about to arrive.

More than thirty years ago Wyndham Deane worked with Sir David Hockney, Covent Garden continued the trend with Sir Sidney Nolan in *Don Giovanni*, staged with the guiding hand of his fellow Australian Elijah Moshinsky. The latter duo, one of the most exciting operatic pairings in recent years, have returned to their homeland and warmed Sydney in winter with a new production of Verdi's *Il trovatore*, which ignites a visual blaze to match the passions unleashed in Verdi's score of vengeance and death.

From the first this is Nolan's *Travatore*. A screen (replacing the curtain) depicts three blue-grey snow-capped mountains streaked with a horizontal bar of red - that bar being the Nolan signature as surely asucci has grabbed the G.

The screen rises to show a timeless set: Nolan and Moshinsky have embraced the darkness and pessimism of this work by enfolding the stage in a black box. A series of fluted columns fill both sides, meeting in the middle to form a giant Gothic arch. Liberal coatings of black paint create a harshness allied to the militaristic mood of a well-fortified castle and this time also adds a hint of modernity in which to frame Nolan's evocative twentieth-century backdrops. All the visual action takes place within the Gothic arch, which is removed from time to time to provide a wider vista. All *Travatore*'s nowadays seem plunged in gloom, but amidst the darkness there are moments of electrifying brilliance.

When Leonora makes her first entrance, in the gardens of the castle, she does so to a series of slowly and separately descending gauzes. The first shows the mountains, the second the moon struggling through the clouds and the third a blanket of stylized flowers. This last has a startling likeness to Monet. Can it be merely coincidental that Monet's *Water Lilies* hangs close to Nolan's Ned Kelly series of paintings in the new National Gallery in Canberra?

Another such moment occurs in the second act when, after a disappointingly jagged Anvil Chorus, Azucena recalls her horrific past against a gauze shimmering like shot silk and bearing the outline of an anguished mother clutching her child.

With such a set it is left to Luciana Arrighi, the costume designer, to create the period and place, which has in any event been changed from fifteenth-century Spain to something resembling Verdi's own mid-nineteenth-century Risorgimento Italy. Arrighi, whose work has been mainly films (*Women in Love*, *Sunday Bloody Sunday*, *My Brilliant Career*), keeps her colours subtle - soft blues and greys and mauves - and then makes much of floor-railling cloaks which are constantly whisked aside to reveal splashes of bright red and blue.

Moshinsky's production is simple, stylized and zestful. He clearly has no intention of competing with Nolan and is happy to leave flashes of insight to the brush of his painter.

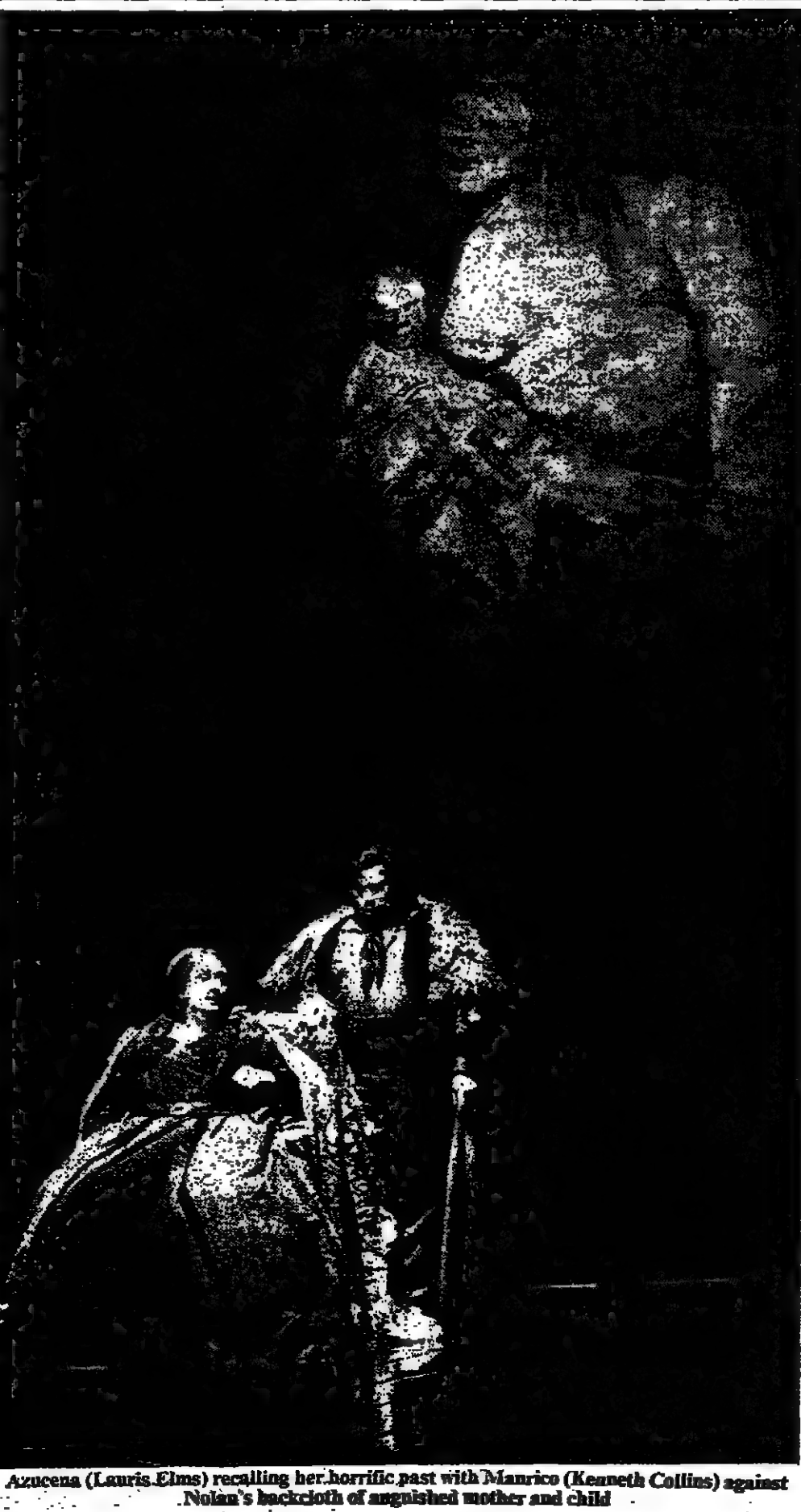
To complement the efforts of this successful team, the Australian Opera claims to have assembled one of its best casts under the somewhat cautious baton of Richard Bonynge. Dame Joan Sutherland as Leonora - a role she came to late in her career and which she sang at Covent Garden in 1981 - is adored on her home ground and could do no wrong, although few would deny that "D'amor, sull'ali" in Act IV was faltering and disappointing.

Mer Marnico was the only imported singer, the English tenor Kenneth Collins (a late replacement for Francisco Ortiz). He may have lost out in looks to his rival, the Count di Luna (the Australian-born Jonathan Summers) but firmly won Leonora's love with a voice full of passion and commitment, which delighted the audience and gained him much applause.

Azucena is a part that shows Lauris Elms at her best, so much so that it was easy to understand that Verdi was drawn to this hysterical, obsessed character in the first instance and that at one time he considered naming the opera after her.

Performances of *Travatore* continue until the middle of September, with Rita Hunter taking over from Joan Sutherland in mid-August.

Linda Christmas



Azucena (Lauris Elms) recalling her horrific past with Marnico (Kenneth Collins) against Nolan's backdrop of anguished mother and child

Television

A model of self-possession

Motives, on BBC 2, transfers Dr Anthony Clare's inquisitorial talents from radio to television, with seven public figures offering themselves to his probing - impelled, one would think, by common masochism, though they have the compensation, and this must make confrontation with a psychiatrist unique, that both sides are getting a fee.

George Best took the stand last night, plumper than when he twinkled magically and unforgettably in a Manchester United shirt, and indeed looking less like a striker than the man opposite. It was a match of contrasting Irish accents with Best never in danger of losing possession and Dr Clare not so much fumbling the ball as not being able to find it. In his heyday, many of Best's opponents had the same trouble.

Whatever motivates him in his general behaviour, we did not, it felt, get any closer to it. Certainly he has his own brand of aplomb, for who could sit and listen to the opening recital of background, talents and sins, of chances taken and missed, without, at the first opportunity, beginning to jabber in a self-revelatory flood?

Well, Best could for one. We

shall see about the others. They have all been taped so second thoughts are out. One got the distinct impression that Best had been probed many times before and possibly less gently than by Dr Clare's soft brogue. One could almost hear the exasperated voices, knowing the beauty of what Dr Clare properly called that "wonderous talent", shouting "What the hell is the matter with you, George?"

Sir Matt Busby, whom he admired, must have been among them, probably more gently than that. He suggested that Best see a psychiatrist and, looking back on the booze and befuddlement, Best thought it might not have been a bad idea. But maybe that was because he was facing his present situation so comfortably.

His childhood had been easy, the 11-plus had been easy, football had been easy. It was a long time before he had realized that he had something special because he was doing something he just enjoyed doing. Then, all of a sudden it seemed as if someone had taken my enjoyment away from me. The club began to get bad results and it

frightened him to think he could not be number one.

Women and liquor drew him; close relationships with women did not. At home, but for Graham, who obviously knew a thing or two, he had been able to talk his way out of everything. Now he could not. He has been drinking his way out on and off ever since, knowing all the time it would not work. He did not know what triggered it off or when it would be triggered. He might, he said, find himself on a trip after the programme. I thought he might have a motive for that. After this somehow infuriating example of waste, I felt like a sniffer-sniff.

Next week it is Mr John Stonehouse for the penitent or impenitent bench. Maybe, at the end of it all, knee-deep in motives, they might add an extra, with Dr Clare taking the seat and someone, properly qualified of course, asking him about his.

Dennis Hackett

● The *Levin Interview* with Henry Moore, reviewed yesterday from a preview, was in fact postponed for later transmission.

Rock

Altered Images

Hammersmith Palais

Altered Images have made an honest attempt to live up to their name. They emerged at the end of the Seventies from the protective wing of the hard-core punks Siouxsie and the Banshees and were an instant success. Then a four-piece, fronted by the diminutive and conversant singer Clare Grogan (a co-star in the film *Gregory's Girl*), Altered Images played heavily on a frothy pop sensibility. The chart-buying public enjoyed her enough to put them in the top ten, but a succession of cloying anthems for teenagers did their critical reputation little good. That version of Altered Images is no more.

At this Palais show Clare Grogan took the chance to emphasize the difference by coming on stage in a slinky haute couture outfit. She wasted no time in introducing the new five-piece group and the current Images sound, as heard on their ambitious album *Bite*. They used that as the basis for their set without hiding the fact that the supposed switch from twee pop to a more subtle shade of

disco is as much a joke as the original model.

Altered Images toy with a veneer of sophistication, enacting a succession of fantasies that Clare Grogan dresses down with refreshing candour. Songs like "Now That You're Here", "Don't Talk To Me About Love" and "Bring Me Closer" (their most recent hit) are almost Abba pastiches. Grogan no longer simpers, she sings properly, with power and authority.

The group were less convincing in revisiting older material. The amateur anarchy that once infested "Insects" and "White Savages" was not suited to their funkier interpretations. Stephen Lironi, who arranges the numbers, has given the old songs a

subtle boost that cannot disguise their frailty. There is the danger for this Altered Images. I am not certain that they can maintain the new deceit. Clare Grogan is not sure whether she wants to be this generation's Lulu or a potential customer for Phil Spector. The uncertainty prevents the band from maintaining a direction. The problem was magnified during the encores, in which they were forced to repeat "See You Later", and by the simpler fact that they failed to sell out the venue. Despite the criticisms levelled at them at the turn of the decade the original Altered Images would have had no trouble resolving those dilemmas.

Max Bell

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Troubled chip market off the chopping block

THE WEEK

By Clive Cookson

Sigma, the British computer graphics manufacturer, has signed a joint venture agreement with Seilac, a spectacular new Japanese enterprise which is said to be the fastest growing of all the high technology companies in that country.

Two years after the company's formation, Seilac already accounts for 80 per cent of the Japanese computer graphics market. This week it shows itself on foreign territory for the first time, in Detroit at Siggraph '83, the big American graphics exhibition.

Sigma marketing director Ray Spiers, who recently saw

the new Seilac 7 graphics system in Japan, says it will worry American competitors (particularly Tektronix, the market leader).

The Japanese machine is a 3D colour system with a performance said to match the best offered by Evans and Sutherland, the Rolls-Royce of the American graphics industry. Its price will be only one quarter of the closest competitor.

Sigma will adapt the Seilac system for Europe, giving it ergonomic features that are missing in the extremely powerful, but rather crude Japanese machines. The ambition is to

sell at least 500 units in the next two years, worth about £8.5m. The longer term goal is to win 30 per cent of the European market, which Sigma expects to reach £187m by 1987.

Marketing Japanese systems in Europe is intended to be the first phase of the joint venture. Sigma and Seilac plan later to cooperate on the development of new products for worldwide sale. Some will be manufactured at Sigma's plant in Horsaam, Sussex.

Ironically, Sigma technical director Chris Wheeler first visited Japan early this year to investigate the possibility of

finding a Japanese partner to sell British-made graphics systems there. But he was so impressed by Seilac that he quickly decided that there was more scope in bringing the Japanese machines to Europe.

Details of the agreement were thrashed out three weeks ago when Sigma chairman John Massey visited Japan with two senior colleagues, and confirmed a week ago - just in time for Sigma and Seilac to have a joint stand at Siggraph this week.

Sigma itself manufactured a range of lower-performance machines with 2D rather than 3D capabilities. The privately-owned company's growth rate has averaged 80 per cent a year since its formation in 1974 and turnover in the next 12 months could be as much as £9m.

The Japanese company chose the name Seilac - almost unpronounceable by native Japanese speakers - with international cooperation very much in mind. Seilac is the French town where the first international meeting was held that led to the present Graphical Kernel Standard (GKS), the only world standard for computer graphics so far.

ICL has signed an important international trading agreement which should provide the long-awaited breakthrough into the American market for its small business computers.

Computerland, the fast-growing microcomputer stores group, is to make ICL's DRS 20 range available in its 450 franchises (350 in the United States and 100 elsewhere in the world).

Ray Pigott, director of ICL's Trader Point division, who negotiated the deal, expects business worth several million pounds a year from Computerland.

ICL is the first non-American company to be selected by the US-based franchise organisation, which is opening a new store somewhere in the world every other day. Total retail sales through Computerland are doubling annually and should reach \$1,000m this year.

Charles Hansen, Computerland's European manager, said that the DRS 20 range would help the stores move up market and attract more sophisticated business users.

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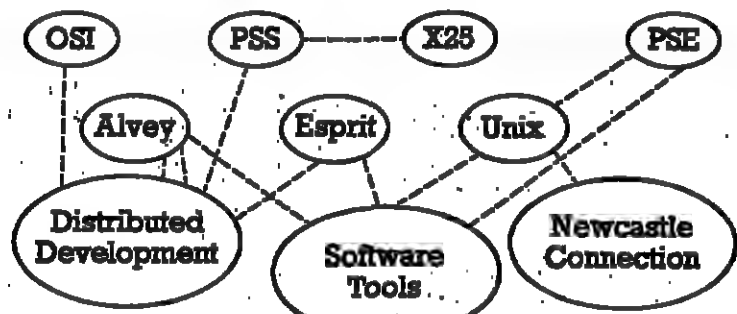
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People/Tim Simon of CCF



Sailing through the City

by Roger Woolhouse

"I was a complete duncie at school," admits Tim Simon. "I failed most exams most of the time, and my father insisted I get some qualification in life, whatever it was."

For someone who is now running a successful computing services and software company, the qualification is unexpected. As a keen sailing man, he chose to study naval architecture. But once qualified, this career did not last long.

Disillusioned with a civil service job, he switched to computers and joined IBM. Today, Tim Simon is chairman and managing director of Computers (City & Financials), more conveniently known as CCF, which he founded about eight years ago. With offices on the edge of the City, the company aims to meet the special needs of stockbrokers, investment managers, shipbrokers and others.

CCF's turnover last year almost doubled to £1.3m, but the company has its origins in a stock market slump. After five years with IBM, Simon was becoming increasingly interested in businesses and what makes them tick. In 1972 he joined his father's stockbroking firm to learn about the financial world.

"The index was just hitting its all-time peak," Simon says. "But after I joined it went down and down. Everyone blamed it on me."

It was a painful experience. When he left IBM, Simon halved his salary, basing his calculations on expected bonuses and commissions. But as City business slumped, his salary was halved again.

Simon was married with four children, and started to moon-

light, writing computer programs. Soon he was working late into the night.

"I suggested to the stockbroking company that if they put up a very small amount of capital we could launch it as a diversification. Stockbrokers were looking for anything, however hare-brained, and they put in £1,000 between them."

It was a modest start. Simon was writing tailor-made software for clients, and charging them on an hourly basis. Then in 1975 a firm of stockbrokers asked for help with a computer system.

"We saw this as a way to get into an area we knew pretty well," says Simon, "and also to end up with a product which we could sell to others."

The result was a software package called FISCAL, which is now used by several brokers, and which Simon reckons accounts for 15 per cent of all London Stock Exchange business.

"I'm a simple-minded chap," he claims, "and understand plain language. I thought it was crazy trying to turn stockbrokers into computer people. Our approach has always been to put software into the jargon of a particular business."

The stockbroking package was soon followed by several more - for fund management (FIMS), shipbroking (SHIPS), and commodities (COCOFIN).

Tim Simon still works hard, but there is no more moonlighting. He expects the turnover of CCF to pass £2m this year. A Hong Kong office has been opened, and he sees New York as a good prospect.

With a continuing enthusiasm for sailing, he has his eyes on Athens. Handy, he says, for the Greek islands.

The dangers facing programmers

by Russell G. Jones

The job title "computer programmer", together with all its various pseudonyms such as "analyst/programmer", is very much a product of the technological revolution that has occurred during the past 20 years. The attributes required to perform the day-to-day functions of the job have always been thought to be of a rather esoteric nature - most programmers are still required to pass a so-called aptitude test before even being considered for a post.

Nevertheless, an increasing number of people are starting their careers in computing as programmers. Of these, a number have passed into systems analysis. The assumption that a successful programmer should be the right person to analyse and improve business clerical systems has all too often proved to be disastrously fallacious. However, there are still left, in commercial installations throughout the country, armies of programmers who are, more usually, maintaining an enormous literature of computer programs. What does the future hold for them?

Many have spent a large part of their time reinventing wheels that others, in similar installations, have already invented, at least once or twice before. An example is the huge number of existing systems that have been written in COBOL and payroll systems written in PL/I, all performing the same basic functions and all written in much the same way. The changes that have occurred in the computer industry over the past 10 years or so have usually left programmers very much unaffected.

Programs have reflected the increasing complexities of the overall business systems of which they form a part, and program design techniques have improved enormously. But many programmers still get by on the same techniques they used five, ten or fifteen years ago.

Some data processing managers are quite happy to pay reasonable salaries to reasonably competent COBOL programmers, who will sit quietly in their corners all day and maintain the aged and increasingly frail sales ledger/payroll/order entry systems that still form the bulk of any commercial installation's catalogue of programs.

Even so, there are a large number of programmers who are living off their fat, either have not, or have not been allowed, to learn of the new techniques that are available or of the advances in hardware and software capabilities that are constantly occurring.

Of all the myriad of forecasts that emanate from those pundits who think they hold the key to future developments in the

computer industry, at least three are fairly safe bets and have a direct bearing on the career prospects of those currently holding the job title "computer programmer". They are:

● Within larger commercial organizations the general, though not universal, trend is towards the use of smaller computers within discrete departments, usually with a corresponding decrease in reliance on the old-style centralized computer. Part of the reasoning behind this is to move the physical location of data nearer to the site of its day-to-day use, but a secondary motivation must not be ignored - to pass control of the use of computers into the hands of the actual users rather than the old-style data processing department.

● Built on the new-style "developed" computers, and on the remaining large data base/data communication-based ones, the future trend will be to "buy in" software products. No longer will systems be written for specific users; instead these users will seek out ready-written packages that fit their requirements.

● The schools and colleges are disgorge thousands of people who will not have to "learn" about computers - they will already be second nature to them. Most of them will have a computer at home, and all of them will have been educated to a level of knowledge about computing which will be at least as high as that of the current commercial programmer. They will also be young and, probably, very keen.

All three of these factors are particularly worrying for the current generation of programmers, the older they are, the more worried they ought to be. Already computer users can buy packages called "Payroll" or "Sales Ledger". Fairly soon, they will be able to buy packages called "Produce Any Report You Wish" or "Display Any Information From Any Database" - and buy them they will, throwing out all the old programs that formerly provided these functions for them.

From now on, users will not be prepared to put up with lead times of one or two months for programs, or one or two years for overall systems; they will merely bypass the old-style data processing departments and will buy their software as they would their photo-copiers. The days when commercial organisations employed large numbers of programmers, staff are going rapidly to an end. So where will the programmers go? The most obvious answer would seem to be to the assorted software houses where these new products will be manufactured. But will they find employment there? The environment will be much more harsh than the one they will have just left.

All the software houses will be trying to sell in very competitive markets, where, in order to sell their sales ledger package, they will need to convince prospective buyers that their product is better than the hundreds of similar ones available.

They will look for staff who are able to produce programs of a uniformly high quality; can program in a number of languages on a multiplicity of different machines; and can respond quickly and efficiently to the pressures brought about by the dynamic fluctuations in the software market. Where will the software houses turn when seeking these qualities? To programmers who have spent five or ten years maintaining mostly archaic software or to new, younger people to whom computers have been second nature for as long as they can remember?

JOB SCENE

by Richard Sharpe

Watch the new boys

Working for a newly formed company in the computer business is exciting, but also dangerous, given the rate of collapse of such ventures. Bright stars in the firmament of the UK computer industry have a habit of going out quite suddenly, and to be involved is a depressing experience.

The founders, who looked like the heroes of the hour, often become the villains as management inadequacies are exposed in bankruptcy or liquidation proceedings.

Even worse can be when a fast growth company is taken over by a much bigger concern, probably a rival which had been the butt of jokes and criticism in the past precisely because it was big and established.

Most employees in the computer industry are employed by large organisations and feel more secure as a result. But for those drawn to the exciting life of the new entrant there are five aspects of the company which should get some attention by the prospective employee and the existing staff.

The first test is to discover if the founders of the company, presumably still at the helm, will share control. If they seem reluctant to even contemplate the day that outside interests will be represented on the board then life may soon get tough. The reason is that no computer company in Britain can generate enough profit to fund its own growth. Outside investment is needed to keep going and outside investors will demand some degree of control.

If the founders are reluctant to give up control voluntarily it will be wrested from them as the financial difficulties of high growth inevitably overcome the company.

The second test to apply is to find out whether the books are professionally kept. In many cases methods of accounting that were acceptable for a small partnership are carried through to the day when the company has grown beyond the size that back-of-envelope accounting will suffice.

Third, prospective candidates should find out if the products marketed by the company are going to be supported adequately. A lot of companies put out what they think is a good product only to be bled dry in their early days by high and unexpected support costs. Only if proper provision for support is made from the start will the right plans have been made and the right financial resources allocated.

The fourth test is to look at the staff turnover and find out

who has left and why. Small companies are often dependent on one or two people in crucial positions in marketing or financial control. Once these people go it is important to find out why. Finally, and perhaps most importantly, employees of small and fast growing computer companies should find out whether an adequate management structure is being built to take the company forward. Are the people who can evaluate, control and take the right decisions available to those who need their advice? Or are they becoming more remote yet refusing to delegate?

The cosy atmosphere of a newly formed company can turn into a management clique where the right people are never accessible.

By following these tests computer staff drawn into the exciting world of a new venture can have some of the danger removed while keeping that element of excitement which is the whole reason for working there.

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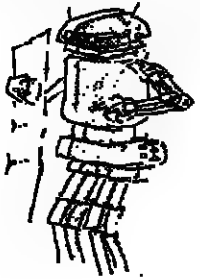
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A small mini or a big micro?

by Dennis Dwyer

a desktop computer a small mini or a big micro? This was a question posed at a briefing in New York last week when Data General introduced its Desktop Generation series of computers.

Edson D. De Castro, founder and president of the corporation, hedged his reply by saying the new family "offers a best of both worlds" understanding, because the United States-based company is foremost producer of minisupercomputers - with over 120,000 units in operation around the world - and until now has gained clear of the microcomputer "jungle" where, in a relatively short time, some 300 companies have gathered to compete for shares of a rapidly growing market.

"Having set out the first generation of office automation, we believe we are taking the lead in the second generation of desktop computers," Mr De Castro told a group of 100 European journalists flown over by charter Concorde to witness the launch of Desktop Generation. Which means that in common with most other major producers - including IBM - we General was recognized as it must drink in the shallow end of the pool as well as in the deeper waters.

When asked to explain what is happening in the minicomputer industry, he said the situation of the market is now very clear. "The market for 16-bit computers produced from discrete integrated circuits has peaked and is in decline, in favour of the 16-bit built on large-scale produced components."

So there we have it - the Desktop Generation is a 16-bit microcomputer designed to compete in price and performance in the personal-computer sector. The four models are all compatible with the corporation's own superminicomputer software and two of them can run industry standard systems also usable on IBM, DEC and other makes of computer.

Another feature of the series is the capacity for up to four different users to work simultaneously on the system each with a separate terminal. The central processing unit



Using Data General's new Desktop systems.

(CPU) incorporated in models 10 and 10SP, has two microprocessors which enable two programs to be run at the same time. The first, a Data General MicroEclipse-processor, will run three of the company's own operating systems: MP/AOS, RDOS and AOS. The second processor, an Intel 8086, allows users to run programs such as

Multiplan and Peachtree-series written for the accepted standards CP/M-86 and MS/DOS. Program languages used are Basic, Fortran IV, C, 77 and Pascal.

The cost of the basic Model 10 is £2,532 and for this you get a CPU with 128KB of main memory, a single 368KB diskette, keyboard, 12-inch monitor and single supply power module. The more powerful 10SP costs £5,608 and the extras include a 256KB CPU, dual power supplies and a 15MB Winchester module. If you want colour, the price up to £7,328. The maximum memory for both models is 768KB.

Models 20 and 30 do not have the Intel 8086 processor and are for use with DG's own systems. Hardware for these is much the same as for the Model 10SP. The cost of the Model 20 is slightly less at £5,256, while the Model 30 comes out at £7,696, which also includes a floating point processing unit and a 512KB memory card.

It is clear that at these prices the marketing attack will not be directed at the home or hobby user. The drive will be towards small businesses, integrated office management and technical professionals.

A triple approach to sales will be through dealerships, original equipment manufacturers, or - in the case of large company customers - through DG's direct sales force.

Production of the new range will come initially from Data General's plant at Clayton, North Carolina. The company's assembly factory in Hong Kong is expected to start output next January; it has not been decided whether this will replace or complement the US operation. Details of a European-based distribution centre will be made known next month by Mr Ray Fortune, DG's vice president, Europe.

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Miracle's big push

Distributors in Germany, France, Italy, Israel and Thailand have already applied to handle the Miracle British portable micro launched by Portico Technology.

Set to become the only dual-processor portable available, when its 16-bit upgrade board is released in September, the 8-bit Miracle offers 128K RAM with fast cache memory accessing and several hundred pounds worth of business software for £1,795. According to managing director Geoff Smith, the 16-bit board is likely to cost "well under £500."

With 800 UK orders on the books, Miracle production is being stepped up to reach 100 a week at the Bedfordshire plant, providing an extra 15 jobs. When Portico Technology's factory at Combran near Newport opens next month, a further 50 jobs will be created and production should increase to about 1,200 machines a month. Mr Smith is optimistic that the company, formed in March, will sell 12,000 Miracles during the first year.

UK Events

8th ZX Microfair, Alexandra Palace, London, August 20.
Video, Audio and Computer Show, Bradford Exposition Centre, September 16-18.

Home Entertainment Show, Olympia, London, September 17-25.
Computer Open Day Exhibition, Central Hotel, Glasgow, September 22.

Microcomputers in Business, Warwick University, Coventry, September 27-29.
Personal Computer World Show, Barbican Centre, London, September 29-October 2.

Computer Fair, The Sir Frederic Osborn School, Welwyn Garden City, October 2.
European Computer Trade Forum, NEC, Birmingham, October 4-7.

Overseas

International Micro Computer Exhibition, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, August 2-5.

National Computer Business & Office Systems, Auckland, New Zealand, August 16-18.

Personal Computers & Office Automation Systems Exhibition, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 5-8.

Australian Computer Exhibition, Melbourne, Australia, September 13-18.

International Peripheral Equipment & Software Exposition, Moscone Centre, Anaheim, USA, September 13-15.

Compiled by Personal Computer News.

Just like the hokey-cokey

by Derek Bradbury



The world of computers is full of mystifying words. Take the word computer itself. If you have not yet quite absorbed it into your subconscious you may still find it a cool, inhuman sort of word that puts you on your guard. And it is certainly not very self-explanatory. Most computers do not do much actual calculating, despite the old joke about computer rooms being equipped with an emergency glass case containing an abacus.

It does not help much to look up the word in technical reference books. I have just checked through half a dozen reputable publications. Collectively they revealed - if that is not putting it too dramatically - that a computer is a system (or machine or other device) which operates on (or processes) data (or information or input) according to preset instructions (or programs) to produce results (or output).

The sheer vagueness is bad enough, but when you work out what this means it seems that a computer could be a washing machine, the human digestive system, or even a line of hokey-cokey dancers - you know, following the preset instructions for putting all those things in and out.

Clearly, the technical books think you ought to know what a computer is before you start. And the general reference works are not much better. For

their different ways. (I quite like "babbarge": you can easily imagine them sitting there, babbarging away; they would have seemed less threatening somehow.)

Let us have another go at a definition. The computer takes stuff in from the external world and gives stuff out to it - quite often different stuff. The stuff is essentially information in some form, rather than tangible matter. The out-stuff is generated from the raw material of the in-stuff by activities which are automatic, are typically lengthy and intricate, and which change themselves quite drastically according to the stuff being acted upon. The computer is continually modifying its own instructions. It may not be thinking, but it is doing more than following mechanical rules.

At this point I am having a twinge of sympathy for the editors of these reference books. We just have not yet invented powerful enough words to handle the ideas conveniently. More generalized terms such as "information processing" or the French "l'informatique" with still wider connotations, are on hand. But they obscure the real drama: the computer is a device of far greater general capability than any other invention. It handles information, and it takes an increasing number of its own decisions about what to do with it. Language now has to rise to the challenge of letting everyone in on the excitement.

Speak up, the computer will be listening

As computer technology escalates, the market is still being held back by the "techno-fear" of thousands of potential computer users who freeze at the sight of a keyboard and balk at the prospect of communicating with an inanimate object.

The good news is that within five years or so the keyboard will be used only for the most esoteric of commands. Voice recognition will be the norm before the decade is out.

Keyboard bypass technology is already flourishing with the use of the "mouse" which enables commands to be entered by aiming a cursor at "icons" on the monitor. The technique was pioneered by Xerox and has been brought to the mass market by Apple with its Lisa and VisiCorp with its VisiOn software.

But the real revolution in escaping the keyboard will come with voice recognition circuitry which transforms sound into digital code that can be understood by a computer's processor. The technique exists but has several drawbacks, the main two being that only a limited vocabulary can be entered and errors are often made due to variances in speech patterns. The task of computer recognition of human speech is among the most challenging undertakings by computer scientists. Speech computer products are expected to reach \$750m by 1985 and \$4,000m by 1992, according to the Connecticut market research firm International Resource Development.

One company committed to voice input technology is Voice Machine Communications, a subsidiary of Kinetics Technology International based in Santa Ana. It already markets voice input modules for Apple machines which are claimed to achieve 98 per cent accuracy in voice recognition from a unit

selling for around £500. The module (VIM) processes speech through a 16-channel audio spectrum analyzer.

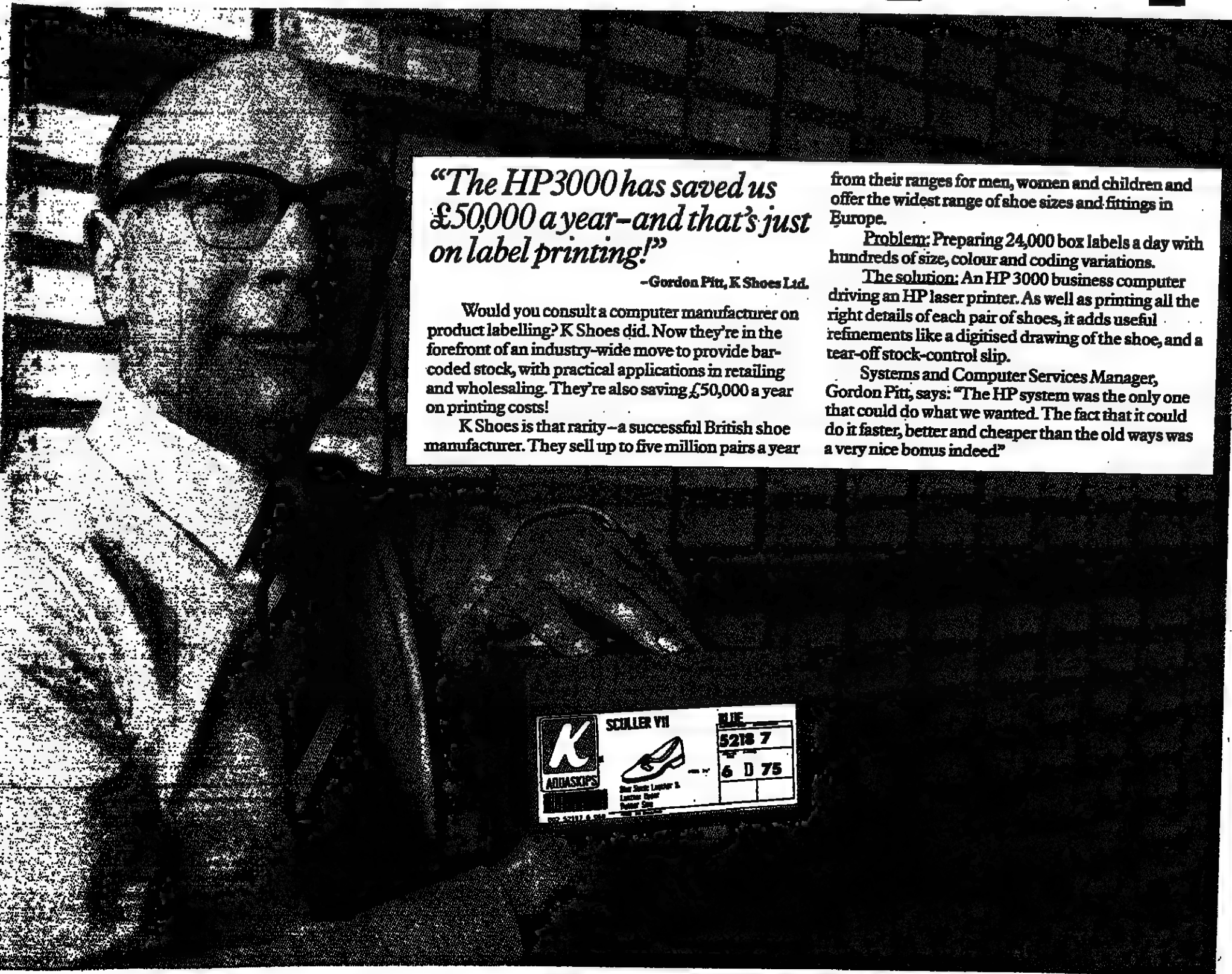
"In a computer market expected to reach £4,000m by 1992, we see an increasing share captured by systems which utilise this almost science fiction capability of computer comprehended human speech," says Dan Johnson, managing director of Voice Machine Communications.

The advantages of such VIM are obvious. Shorter training hours are required and the operator is free to concentrate on other tasks while simply speaking to the machine.

However even voice recognition could be surpassed by a technique even more futuristic. Electronics giant Atan is rumoured to be researching the possibility of communicating with computers by thought transference.

Ian White

What if you chose Hewlett-Packard as a business computer partner?



"The HP3000 has saved us £50,000 a year - and that's just on label printing!"

- Gordon Pitt, K Shoes Ltd.

Would you consult a computer manufacturer on product labelling? K Shoes did. Now they're in the forefront of an industry-wide move to provide bar-coded stock, with practical applications in retailing and wholesaling. They're also saving £50,000 a year on printing costs!

K Shoes is that rarity - a successful British shoe manufacturer. They sell up to five million pairs a year

from their ranges for men, women and children and offer the widest range of shoe sizes and fittings in Europe.

Problem: Preparing 24,000 box labels a day with hundreds of size, colour and coding variations.

The solution: An HP 3000 business computer driving an HP laser printer. As well as printing all the right details of each pair of shoes, it adds useful refinements like a digitised drawing of the shoe, and a tear-off stock-control slip.

Systems and Computer Services Manager, Gordon Pitt, says: "The HP system was the only one that could do what we wanted. The fact that it could do it faster, better and cheaper than the old ways was a very nice bonus indeed."

You too will see results you can measure.

Using an HP 3000 for labelling shoes is just one example of the way Hewlett-Packard computers produce measurable results in specific business applications.

But the HP 3000 Series computers are not just dedicated systems. They're full-capability business computers. They can support one user - or 144 users. They're designed to be the heart of HP's Interactive Office, where word processing, electronic mail, business graphics, personal filing and time management can all be integrated with your data processing.

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that can bring them quickly and

effectively to the place you work.

There's a free booklet about them. For your copy write to: Pat Warland, Hewlett-Packard Ltd, Nine Mile Ride, Easthampstead, Wokingham, Berks, RG11 3LL.

About HP in the UK*
Size: Among the top 500 UK companies. Turnover: £168m.
Current growth rate: 42% p.a. UK employees: 2,400.
1982 capital expenditure: £8.8m.

*AS QUOTED IN HEWLETT-PACKARD LIMITED'S 1982 REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

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Investment
and
FinanceCity Editor
Anthony Hilton

THE TIMES

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STOCK EXCHANGES

FT Index: 700.9 down 5.9
FT 100s: 79.49 down 0.59
FT All Shares: 444.58 down
0.68 (datastream estimate)
Bargains: 18.848
Detastream USM Leaders
index: 97.03 down 0.28
New York: Dow Jones Average
(midday): 1227.86 down
3.31
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones
index: 8991.93 down 23.02
Hong Kong: Hang Sang Index
1081.77
Amsterdam: Index 146.5 up
1.0
Frankfurt: Commerzbank
index 970.60 down 4.3
Sydney: AO Index 672.4 up
3.8
Brussels: General Index
129.81 up 1.01
Paris: C A C Index 128.8 up
1.2
Zurich: S K A General 289.6
no change

Our daily listings of Stock
Exchange, unit trust and Wall
Street prices have been
suspended because of a
computer fault. We apologize
for the temporary omission of
these listings.

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5225 up 15pts
Index 84.7 down 0.3
DM 3.97 up 0.0275
FF 11.9225 up 0.0775
Yen 366.50 up 1.0
Dollar
Index 126.77 up 0.5
DM 2.678

NEW YORK CLOSE
Sterling \$1.5225
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.574647
SDR £0.697506

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rate 9½
Finance houses base rate 10½
Discount market loans week
fixed 9½-9¾
3 month interbank 10½-10¾
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 10½-10¾
3 month DM 5½-5¾
3 month FF 14-13¾
US rates:
Bank prime rate 10.50
Fed funds 9½
Treasury long bond 90 23/32-
90 27/32
ECGD Fixed Rate Sterling
Export Finance Scheme IV
Average reference rate for
interest period June 2 to July 5,
1983 inclusive 9.876 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce): am
\$423.74, pm \$422.00
close \$424.50 (£279.75) un-
changed
New York latest \$442.00
Kruggerand* (per coin):
\$437-438.50 (£287.50-288.50)
Sovereigns* (new) \$99.50-
100.50 (£65.75-66)
*excludes VAT.

TODAY

Interim: Jourdan Thomas,
National Westminster, Vantona
Vivella.
Finsis: Acrow (amended),
Aeronautical and General
Trust, British Kidney Patient
Assoc. Investment Trust,
Dixons, Dorn Holdings, Grind-
lays, Hambro Trust, MacCarthy's
Pharmaceuticals, Mercantile
House, Radiant Metal, Vantage
Securities.
Economic statistics: Balance
of payments current account,
overseas trade figures (June).

ANNUAL MEETINGS

TODAY - Amber Industrial
Holdings, Cayzer House, 2/4
St Mary Axe, EC3 (3.30);
Hargreaves Group, Bowcliffe
Hall, Bramham, Wetherby, W.
Yorks (noon); Heron Corpora-
tion, Heron House, 19 Maryle-
bone Road, NW1 (noon);
Sterling Industries, Cayzer
House, 2/4 St Mary Axe, EC3
(12.30); Whitbread, Porter Tun
Room, The Brewery, Chiswell
Street, EC1 (noon).

NOTEBOOK

The clearing banks reporting
season begins today with
National Westminster. Profits
are expected to show an
improvement over the same
period last year, despite higher
bad debt provisions.
Page 17

Beer prices up: Ansell's, part
of Allied Breweries, yesterday
raised its ale and lager prices
between 1p and 2p a pint at the
bar in the Potteries, the Black
Country, Birmingham and
Coventry areas. In the Potteries,
Allied's Ind Coop and Tetley
ales rose 3p a pint. Tennent's,
the Scottish arm of Bass, is
expected to put through price
increases of up to 3p a pint.
Trade sources said.

Volcker admits concern over continued strong money growth
Dollar surges to record levels on
fears of higher US interest rates

Renewed fears of another
sharp rise in United States
interest rates pushed the dollar
to a record against the French
franc yesterday and resulted in a
flurry of nervous trading on
world financial markets.

The markets were unsettled
by the unexpected \$300m
(\$197m) increase in the United
States money supply reported
on Friday. Money growth
continues to exceed even the
broader, more relaxed targets
announced by the United States
central bank last week.

Also fuelling the fears were
remarks by Mr Paul Volcker,
chairman of the Federal Re-
serve Board, that continued
strong growth in the M1
measure of the money supply
was a matter for concern.

Mr Volcker's comments led to

widespread speculation that the
Fed would move quickly to
curtail growth in the money
supply, thus putting upward
pressure on interest rates and
resulting in another rise in the
prime lending rate, perhaps this
week.

The prime rate has stood at
10.5 per cent since February
and many analysts believe it is

The dollar surged ahead on
foreign exchanges yesterday as
Friday's unexpected rise in the
US money supply prompted
more fears of higher US interest
rates.

The dollar reached a 7½ year
high against the Deutschmark
of DM2.6140 at the official
midday fixing. This was 2½

From Bailey Morris, Washington

too low in relation to other
rates, which have risen sharply
in recent months.

Despite what appeared to be
a policy by the Fed of less
emphasis on growth in M1, Mr
Volcker said last week that he
was not yet prepared to rule it
out as an indicator.

"I'm not willing to say M1 is
meaningless when the move-

ments are as large as they have
been for as long as they have
been," he told the Con-
gressional Banking Committee.

At the same time Mr Volcker
informed Congress that the Fed
was nonetheless expanding its
targets for money growth for the
rest of the year to accommodate
the large bulge in money supply
since January.

But the latest figures revealed
that growth is still well above
even the expanded targets,
putting renewed pressure on the
central bank to rein in credit in
order to calm fears of a
resurgence of high inflation.

The latest targets set by the
central bank have been inter-
preted by some analysts as the
outgrowth of a policy to begin
managing interest rates more
closely.

"I think the targets mean that
the central bank will now use a
modest increase in rates to
nudge strong third-quarter
economic growth down to a
more moderate and sustainable
pace," said Mr Timothy
Howard, chief economist of the
Federal National Mortgage
Association.

The dollar drifted back
to close off the best at
DM2.6078.
Sterling slipped below \$1.52
at one point but ended the day at
its highest point of \$1.5225 - a
rise of 15 points. The pound was
also firmer and its trade-weighted
index against a basket of
major currencies ended 0.3 up

Deutschmark, franc and lira suffer

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The dollar surged ahead on
foreign exchanges yesterday as
Friday's unexpected rise in the
US money supply prompted
more fears of higher US interest
rates.

Mr Volcker's comments led to

plummeted above Friday's close
and the highest since January 2,
1967.

Demand for the US currency
also pushed it to a record high
against the Italian Lira and the
French franc of FF 7.8565 at the
official fixing. However it
lost ground after the opening of
New York markets and in

Ibstock returns to
profit in first half

By Susan Boyan

Ibstock Johnson yesterday
reported an impressive turn-
around to first-half pre-tax
profits of about £1.5m. It also
forecast record profits for the
year.

As a result, London Brick will
have to increase considerably its
takeover offer for Ibstock's
shares. The deal is subject to
clearance by the Monopolies
and Mergers Commission.

The publication of the
commission's report is now
imminent. "It has already been
submitted to Mr Cecil Parkin-
son, the Secretary of State for
Trade and Industry", a letter
from Mr Paul Hyde-Thompson,
Ibstock chairman, says.

Profits expected for the six
months to end-June compare
with a loss of £1.27m in the
same period of 1982 and a loss
of £1.4m for the whole of last
year. The previous record profit
achieved was £5.07m in 1978
and analysts believe that the

result for this year could top
£6m.
Even better prospects are on
the cards in 1984 and the board
has approved plans for increas-
ing United Kingdom produc-
tion by about 20 per cent
over the next three years.

A profits turnaround could be
expected with conditions for the
usually successful British end of
the business improving and
with the loss-making Dutch side
having been sold last February.

The United Kingdom sub-
sidiary benefited from the mild
weather and the upturn in the
building cycle to make trading
profits of around £5m in the
half-year compared with just
under £3m in the first half of
1982.

In the US the first quarter
saw a continuation of the policy
of severe production curtail-
ment to conserve cash and to
balance stocks at different
plants.

US group
buys Aston
Martin

By Jonathan Clare

Aston Martin Lagonda, the
renowned manufacturer of fast
cars for the well-heeled, could
be entirely owned by United
States interests within three
years.

The changes follow the sale
by Pace Petroleum, the Surrey-
based oil company, of its 50 per
cent stake in Aston Martin
Lagonda to Automotive Invest-
ments, the United States Aston
Martin distributor. At the same
time, CH Industrials has re-
duced its stake in Aston
Martin Lagonda from 50 per
cent to 45 per cent to give AI a
total shareholding of 55 per
cent.

CH Industrials has also
granted AI options over its
remaining shares which can be
exercised over the next three
years at an as yet undetermined
price.

But CH Industrials is to keep
its half share in Aston Martin
Lagonda, the coachbuilding firm
which is soon to produce a
convertible version of the
Jaguar XJ-S. AI will own the
other half of the Tickford
company.

Pace has realized its invest-
ment in Aston Martin because
of pressure on the oil side of its
business. The deal will limit CH
Industrials' financial involve-
ment in the production of cars.
AI is expected to invest heavily
in the development of new
models.

The Aston Martin V8 is near
the end of its production life
although the Aston Martin
Lagonda is expected to sell well
for several years. Production
has just returned to four cars a
week after an industrial dispute.
This level of production is just
profitable.

Should CH Industrials should-
er some of the development
burden, AI will probably not
exercise its options, though this
is unlikely. AI wanted a
controlling interest in Aston
Martin Lagonda as a pre-requi-
site to putting up cash.
CH Industrials has a 20 per
cent stake in the US distributor.
It originally owned the distri-
bution business but sold out and
subsequently bought back an
interest. Its total investment in
Aston Martin is in the books at
£640,000.

CH Industrials and Pace
stepped in in January 1981 to
help Aston Martin develop
faster.

On Friday, Toyota, the
Japanese car maker, announced
that it was to take a 16.5 per
cent stake in Group Lotus, the
Norwich sports car company.

Flight and Huntleigh
agree share swap

By Wayne Lintott

Flight Refuelling (Holdings),
the Dorset-based defence and
electronics group, has an-
nounced a one-for-one share
swap in its agreed bid for
Huntleigh Group, the engineer-
ing and electronics company.

The shares of both companies
were re-traded, having been
suspended a week ago when the
bid was first announced. At a
Flight price of 203p, the bid is
worth £29.16m and gives the
combined company a capitaliza-
tion of £100m.

The deal will give Huntleigh
shareholders a 15 per cent
increase over the suspension
price of 176p, a forecast 20 per
cent rise on Huntleigh's 1982
dividend and 33.3 per cent of
the equity of the combined
group.

Flight made a pre-tax profit
forecast for the current year of
£5m, up 33 per cent, and
expects to recommend a total
net dividend for the year of
2.5p, up 24 per cent.

Rolf Schild, chairman of
Huntleigh, and Mr Peter Ep-
stein, joint chief executive, are
acquiring the medical and
electronics sides of Huntleigh
for £510,000 and accepting debt
liability of £2m. That leaves
Flight with the Hymatic Group,
which designs and manufac-
tures high technology equip-
ment for the aerospace and
defence industries.



Mr Schild: taking on two
divisions

Hymatic, which has forecast
profits for the year of £2.5m,
against £1.45m, was Huntleigh's
most profitable area. And neatly
dovetails into Flight's increas-
ing expansion into defence-
oriented activities. The deal
takes Flight into missiles and
infra-red weaponry.

Mr Michael Cobham, Flight
chairman and chief executive,
said that despite a virtual £20m
goodwill payment, he expects
Hymatic to increase profits
substantially over the next three
years and to make very
considerable profit contribu-
tions to the enlarged com-
pany.

WALL STREET

Shares
edge
higher

New York (AP-Dow Jones) -
Stocks were slowly recovering
yesterday and made up some of
the ground lost in the initial
decline in response to the
unexpected rise of \$300m in the
basic money supply reported by
the Federal Reserve last Friday.

The Dow Jones industrial
average was down about 5½
points at one stage, having been
down about nine points earlier.
Declines were 8-10 1/2 ahead of
advances.

The stock market "should
rally more in the next few weeks
but will probably stay selective
and do more testing or correct-
ing later", according to Mr
Robert Farrell, market analyst
at Merrill Lynch.

"Bonds are in a bottoming
process although a modestly
lower low should not be ruled
out. A buying opportunity in
bonds appears to be developing.
If bonds rally well it should help
the stock market", he said.

Exxon was unchanged at 35.
PPG Industries up ½ at 66½.
American Telephone & Tel-
egraph down ½ at 61½. Inter-
national Business Machines
unchanged at 124½. Westing-
house down ½ at 48½. Pfizer up
½ at 40½. International Paper
down ½ at 51½. General
Motors unchanged at 74½. Ford
down ½ at 58½. Chrysler off
½ at 30½.

Texas Instruments was down
6½ to 122½. It reported a
second-quarter loss of \$119.2m,
compared with a profit of
\$36.9m a year ago. The
company blamed unexpectedly
slow sales of its 99-4A home
computer.

overseeing ICI's £1,000m sales
of agricultural products.
Ultramar sees AGC as a
promising diversification away
from its main business, oil.
Advent is one of the most active
British-based venture capital
funds specializing in high
technology investments.

The founding shareholders
have subscribed a total of only
£700,000 now. Their main
contributions will come when
Dr Gilmore and the board have
prepared a corporate plan and
recruited senior staff. The
positions of technical director,
marketing director and finance
director are all open.

Birth of Celltech's 'country cousin'

By Clive Cookson, Technology Correspondent

BTG announces new biotechnology group

The British Technology
Group yesterday announced the
Agricultural Genetics Com-
pany, its second important
biotechnology venture.

The AGC will eventually
receive about £15m in start-up
funds. The three main founding
shareholders the BTG and two
private sector investors, Ultra-
mar and Advent Technol-
ogy-expect to put in nearly £3m
each, and the remaining £6m or
£7m will be sought later from
new private sector partners.

The new company has
already been referred to as
"Celltech's country cousin"
because its relationship with the

Agricultural Research Council
(ARC) is very similar to
Celltech's with the Medical
Research Council. The ARC
will have first option to exploit
all ARC research in its three
priority fields: non-conven-
tional plant breeding (including
genetic engineering of crops),
microbial inoculants, and
biological control of pests.

Details of AGC's role and
finances had leaked extensively
to the press over the last few
months, as the BTG negotiated
the final touches to the arrange-
ments. The main news at
yesterday's launch was the
identity of the company's chief
executive - Dr Roger Gilmore.

Dr Gilmore is a 41-year-old
Scottish biochemist and micro-
biologist, who has been lured
back from the United States to
take charge of AGC. For the
past four years he has run
Griffith Laboratories, a success-
ful food technology company
based in Chicago, which record-
ed sales of \$110m (about £72m)
last year. He will have a
personal stake in the company,
in addition to the shares held by
the three institutional investors,
and so will Dr Alan Robertson,
AGC's non-executive chairman.

Dr Robertson, who is 62,
retired from the main board of
ICI last year. He had been
responsible for seven years for

City Editor's Comment

The pessimism of
Mr Lawson

Conflicting economic
statistics, ministerial state-
ment and counter-leak over
the past month or so have
left Parliament, the City,
and perhaps the Treasury
too, in complete confusion
over the true state of
government finances.

Runaway monetary
growth swollen by hefty
borrowing by central
government first gave the
City collywobles as pun-
dits predicted higher inter-
est rates and massive sales
of government stocks to
mop up excess cash.

Summer
forecast

The Chancellor's emer-
gency package to slice
£500m off public spending
and raise a further £500m
through asset sales sug-
gested that the City's fears
were indeed shared by the
Treasury.

Mr Lawson said his
package was designed to
bring spending back closer
to target. Published figures
showed central government
spending in the first quarter
of 1983-84 running more
than £3,000m over plans at
an annual rate.

The Treasury's unpub-
lished summer forecast
suggested public sector
borrowing could top
£11,000m this year,
£3,000m above the £8,200m
budget target.

Yet hardly had Mr
Lawson's statement been
digested, than new figures
on public borrowing for the
first quarter (including
loans to town halls and
state industries from pri-
vate sources) suggested he
had acted too hastily. They
showed the public sector
borrowing requirement at a
seasonally adjusted
£1,900m, comfortably in-
side the full-year target.

What is more, the critics
argued, the Chancellor was
foolish to act so early in the
financial year when he
could have no sensible
means of judging what the
PSBR will finally turn out

to be. In 1982-83, after all,
the Treasury managed to
underestimate it by
£1,500m with only two
weeks of the financial year
left to go.

There must be a strong
suspicion that the Chan-
cellor has deliberately made
use of pessimistic Treasury
forecasts to put the fright-
eners on his Cabinet
colleagues in the run-up to
the annual spending review
of plans for the next year
and beyond.

How better to keep
spending ministers in line
than to threaten tax in-
creases or higher interest
rates if the £5,000m of
excess bids for 1984-85
were not eliminated?

This is not wholly fair.
The latest PSBR figures
owe much to questionable
seasonal adjustment (unad-
justed borrowing comes to a
less healthy looking
£3,900m) and to buoyant
revenues which have helped
conceal the overrun on
government spending.

Chancellor's
clampdown

And Mr Lawson, mindful
of past experience, will be
reluctant to assume - and to
let spending ministers as-
sume - that the revenues
will automatically be there
to finance higher spending.
Even if they were, Tory
election pledges dictate
their use for tax cuts rather
than extra spending, he can
claim.

But, with all that said,
the Chancellor does seem to
be putting the worst possi-
ble gloss on what is
happening. The Treasury's
summer forecast suggests
economic growth and in-
flation this year and next
are in line with plans; the
rise in government spend-
ing could well ease off later
this year, helped by the
Chancellor's clampdown;
revenues are doing well.

The magician in Mr
Lawson may yet pull the
tax rabbit out of his hat next
spring.

Cut in cash inflows for institutions

IN BRIEF

Financial institutions other
than banks, such as insurance
companies, pension funds and
building societies, suffered a
sharp drop in cash inflows in
the first quarter of the year,
according to the latest official
figures.

Net inflows fell to £5,900m
from £7,600m in the final
quarter of 1982, mainly due to a
slump in building society
receipts.

More cash flowed into life
assurance and pension funds in
the first quarter but net receipts
were no higher than a year
earlier. These institutions re-
duced their purchases of British
government stocks and United

Kingdom shares, but stepped up
investment in overseas shares
to a record £1,170m - nearly a
third of their net inflows.

German recovery: West
Germany's gross national prod-
uct is expected to rise to almost
2 per cent later this year,
compared with an increase of 1
per cent in the first half,
according to the Organization
for Economic Cooperation and
Development. Overall, it is
forecast to grow by 0.5 per cent
in 1983.

Tax changes: The Govern-
ment is to change the tax
treatment of deep discount

bonds and of pension funds
using financial futures in next
year's Finance Bill. Mr Nigel
Lawson, the Chancellor, said in
a written Parliamentary reply
yesterday.

Acrow delay: Acrow, the
excavation equipment and
bridge construction group, has
postponed the release of full-
year figures due today until
August 4. Mr James Cunning-
ham, managing director, said it
was "more convenient for the
board to meet next week." But
there is considerable nervous-
ness on the stock market. The
company has been losing
money and in February an-
nounced a refinancing package.

BANCA TOSCANA

Joint Stock Company, Head Office in Florence.
Fully paid-up capital: Lit. 50,000,000,000. Reserve and profit funds: Lit. 960,194,081.724.

FROM THE
ANNUAL REPORT
AS OF
DECEMBER 31st
1982

78th financial year

Customers' deposits	Lit. 6,279 billions	(+19.1%)
Loans to customers	Lit. 2,362 billions	(+10.9%)
Securities owned	Lit. 2,791 billions	(+10.6%)
Net profit	Lit. 17,766 millions	(+24.3%)
Capital, reserves and risk funds	Lit. 990 billions	(+10.3%)

The Banking Group: Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Banca Toscana, Credito Commerciale,
Credito Lombardo and Italian International Bank Ltd. Administrative headquarters at December 31st, 1982
For 1982 Lit. 36,200 billions. The Group's own resources total Lit. 2,219 billions.

مكتبة الامم المتحدة

INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK • edited by Michael Prest

Nat West kicks off banking season

Concern over the international debt crisis and the need for provisions against both international and domestic banks have been key influences in the clearing banks for some time now.

The recent fears over whether all could patch up its finances with the International Monetary Fund under the sector on the stock market although a measure of it has now returned.

For debt provisions will still be a main focus of attention in the clearing bank report season, which begins today.

Interim results from National Westminster followed Midland tomorrow, Lloyds Friday and Barclays next.

Analysts are expecting an increase in aggregate profits from the big four.

Midland is expected to show the most significant improvement in a poor first half in 1982.

Bad-debt provisions are expected to be lower than in the second half of last year but still up on the first.

Wood Gundy is forecasting a rise of £331m in the first half of 1983.

Both Midland and Nat West are expected to show first-half provisions to be less than £470m.

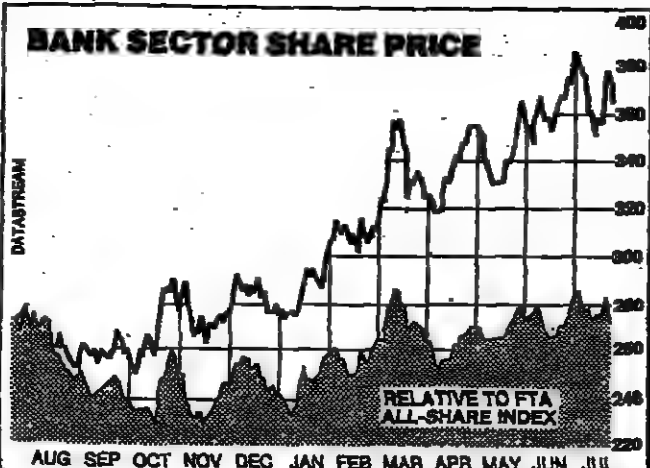
Nevertheless, pretax profits should still be up, with de Zoete & Bevan, for instance, forecasting an 11 per cent gain from £738m to £817m.

Provisions will remain an important factor in the second half of the year, although some analysts believe that the worst provisions could fall in the second half and bank profits could be helped significantly by lower provisions in 1984.

Looking into the future, questions also remain as to how well the banks can cope with other changes in their operating environment, such as the growing competition for savings and the likelihood of having to live with much lower interest rates than in the past.

A sustained period of high interest rates has led to a marked reduction in the proportion of sterling deposits drawn from current accounts, but the banks have taken steps to offset the loss of endowment profits by increasing charges for services. There are also some modest signs in recent months of a reversal in the trend away from current accounts.

The banks can also expect lower inflation to help towards containing the growth in internal costs.



AAH

AAH Holdings
Year to 31.3.83
Pretax profit £9.4m (28.6m)
Turnover £468m (242m)
Net dividend 5.81p (5.2p)
Share price 98p, up 1p. Yield 8.2%.

After the nasty dip in profits which during 1981-82 spoiled AAH's 14-year run of continuous improved results, last year was much healthier.

The colder spell in February and March after what until then had been a mild winter helped the fuel interests - through the National Coal Board - and profits were only slightly down.

The solid fuel side produced £5.9m against £6.4m and oil fuel made £11.0m against £9.4m, although bad debts were up.

The late winter weather was also comparatively dry, to the benefit of the building materials supply interests which doubled

profits from £1m to £2.2m. This trend has continued this year as private housing starts have risen.

The agricultural services business, which has local authority contracts for mowing grass and planting flower beds, also benefited from the same dry weather. Both agricultural services and building materials commonly make a loss during winter but proved very resilient this time round.

The black spots were the two engineering companies which turned in a £4,000 loss against profits of £206,000, but rationalization measures in the last quarter should cut losses. One company is on short time working.

The "miscellaneous" loss has been cut by two thirds to £113,000 but is largely the result of the re-allocation of head office expenses.

Once again the dividend has been increased. AAH is proud of its dividend record which has beaten inflation virtually every year.

This year should see profits back to at least the £9.8m made in 1980-81. The company stands to benefit from further privatization of local authority work, both through its agricultural services and the waste disposal business.

COMMODITIES

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

Unofficial prices:
Official turnover in tonnes
Silver in ounces per fine ounce
Based on 1000g = 32.1507 oz

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COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Bremar Trust. - The trust has bought R. Raphael and Sons and the remaining shares in Look Service Stations. R. Raphael will form the nucleus of the banking division and provide a base for its expansion. It will retain its name.

Associated British Engineering. - The board has stated that the amount of dividend for the year to March 31 will depend on the level of profits. The company says the increase should not be less than 10 per cent.

Cadbury Schweppes Australia. - The company reported a 26 per cent increase in pre-tax profits from A\$6.8m to A\$8.3m (£2.7m to £4.7m) on an increase in sales from A\$181.7m to A\$147.5m for the 24 week to June 18. An interim dividend of 4.5 cents has been declared.

Resource Technology. - The company has bought Underwater Trials, the diver and underwater trials group. The consideration of £210,000 for the 64 per cent of UTL owned by a consortium of institutional shareholders has been satisfied by the issue of 131,567 ordinary shares. The consideration for the remaining 36 per cent has been satisfied by the issue of 120,000 per cent not redeemable preference shares 1980.

W.S. Yeates. Half-year to 30.4.83. Pretax profit £582,000 (£715,000). Stated earnings 17.4p (29.7p). Turnover £15.3m (£14.5m). Net interest 5.0p dividend (4.5p). Dividend payable September 1.

F.M. Tomkins. Year to 1.5.83. Pretax profit £1,589,000 (£1,270,000). Stated earnings 4.41p (3.85p). Turnover £15,318,000 (£15,318,000). Net final dividend 1.5p (1.35p).

Ain Group. Year to 3.4.83. Pretax profit £447,000 (£2.2m). Stated earnings 2.1p (1.1p). Turnover £10.9m (£12.8m). Share price 3.85p. Dividend payable October 1.

Alfred Preezy. Year to 26.3.83. Pretax profit £482,000 (£930,000). Stated earnings 3.85p (8.48p). Turnover £29,178,000 (£28,887,000). Net final dividend 2.75p p same. Dividend payable October 3.

Celestion Industries. Year to 2.4.83. Stated Loss 2.1p (0.7p). Turnover £32,025,000 (£30,368,000). Net final dividend 1p (same).

HALLITE PLC

Manufacturers of precision seals, hose and components in engineering polymers

Summary of results for the 52 weeks ended 30th April, 1983

	1983	1982
Turnover	£11.70	£9.283
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	1,023	965
Earnings per share		
- net basis	29.2p	32.3p
- nil basis	33.2p	32.5p
Dividends per share	11.0p	11.0p

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. J. Gordon:-

- The results represent further important progress by the group during a year when the main markets for group products throughout the world were in recession.
- Continuing attention is being given to investment in the latest technology associated with all aspects of group business. Capital investment in plant, equipment and tooling totalled £1.2 million.
- There is as yet no clear evidence of an upturn in market requirements but the group is well placed to benefit from any improvement in demand for group products in the future.



Board post at Dalgety for Carey

Dalgety: Sir Peter Carey, formerly permanent secretary at the Department of Industry, is joining the board as non-executive director on August 1.

Triefus: Mr. J. K. Morland and Mr. M. F. Triefus have been appointed joint managing directors. Mr. D. J. Hitchings and Mr. C. F. Triefus have been made directors. Mr. Hitchings continues as secretary.

Colonial Insurance Brokers: Mr. Stephen Leysborne, formerly financial director of Car Care Plan (Holdings), has become deputy managing director.

Silver Line: Mr. C. E. Bugden has been named director of finance and administration with Mr. N. Wright as director of projects and tanker chartering.

Sleepers: Miss Janet Kimber has become company secretary and treasurer.

Soil Mechanics: Mr. Geoffrey

MARKET REPORT • by Michael Clark

Sell-off doubts hit BP, but others rally with relief

The stock market held its breath yesterday as the Chancellor of the Exchequer cleared the decks for the Government's proposed sale of further state-owned shares in BP.

He confirmed that he hoped to raise about £500m from the sale, which would take place before the end of the financial year. But the lack of details over the sale and the timing of the event cast a shadow over BP, which ended the day 14p lower at 390p.

Dealers last night complained that up to eight months of uncertainty now faced the shares and hoped that the anxiety would prove short-lived.

Market estimates suggest that the Government may choose to reduce its stake by about 7 per cent to 32 per cent to raise the required amount. Several broking firms are prepared to recommend the shares once the details are known, as the price has been consistently underperformed that of its closest rival, Shell, which ended the day only 2p lower at 564p.

Other privatization candidates in which the Government still has a large stake all breathed a sigh of relief at having been spared further sell-offs. British Telecom rose 18p to 462p. Associated British Ports, which came to market earlier this year, closed unchanged at 152p, and British Aerospace, down 2p at 195p, and Amersham International, 1p higher at 257p, closed above their worst levels.

The rest of the equity market made a lacklustre start to the second leg of the account, awaiting details of the Chancellor's announcement. Some dealers described it as the quietest day so far this year as turnover dried up to just a trickle.

Jobbers bolstered their defences with a savage mark down first thing, and at one stage this took the FT Index below 700. In the event, it closed 5.9 down at 700.9.

Leading equities looked sickly with just a smattering of blue showing through after hours. Allied-Lyons lost 2p to 141p, Associated Dairies 2p to 148p, BICC 6p to 215p, BTR 7p to 827p, Beecham 5p to 345p, Blue Circle 8p to 435p, Boverton 3p to 235p, Distillers 3p to 219p, GKN 5p to 161p, Glaxo 10p to 840p, Hawker Siddeley 6p to 306p, London Brick 2p to 76½p and Plessey 3p to 674p.

Cadbury Schweppes recovered an early fall to close unchanged at 110p after news of an increase in profits by its Australian subsidiary from A\$6.6m to A\$8.3m. Boots continued to enjoy its recent strong run, climbing a further 3p to 311p and still reflecting the sale of its joint agrochemicals venture with Fisons to Schering for £120m last week.

The latest US money supply figures, issued over the weekend, did little to stifle fears that an imminent increase in interest rates there is on the cards. This is in spite of last week's re-adjustment in the fiscal budget deficit.

The market had been expecting a fall in the figures, but was treated instead to a small rise. The US bond market signalled its disapproval with fall of more than \$2 at the longer end of the market, and this made for nervous trading in London.

Gilt-edged one of their worst sessions in several weeks with losses of more than 1½% in some places. Prices recovered toward the close but falls still exceeded £1 at the longer end.

On the foreign exchange, the pound had a better day against the dollar, rising 0.1 cents to \$1.5220.

The high street banks were also in a nervous mood on the eve of their interim reporting season. National Westminster, reporting today, lost 10p to 649p. The market is looking for a fall in pretax profits from £214m to £205m.

Midland, expected to reveal profits up from £95m to £120m tomorrow, lost 7p to 412p. Iley, reporting on Friday, fell 10p to 549p. Analysts are looking for pretax profits of

Licensed dealers Harvard Securities' first venture into the business expansion scheme appears to have been a roaring success. Yesterday it announced that the placing of 2.3 million shares in Video Brokers, the video cassette distributor, had been heavily oversubscribed. Applications for up to 500,000 shares will be forced to ballot for a mere 10,000 shares.

£186m against £93m last. Barclays, which reports within the next fortnight, remained relatively unscathed, losing 5p to 474p.

The oil sector was mixed, with falls just outnumbering gains. Burmah closed unchanged at 157p, Dome Petroleum slipped 10p to 300p, Imperial Continental Gas 5p to 48p, Jackson Exploration 4p to 81p, and Ultramar 2p to 637p. Fisons was unchanged at 210p and Lashco managed a small rise of 2p to 328p.

Lashco's new 9½ per cent preference shares opened with a premium in first-time dealings. The £2.25 partly-paid stock closed at £26½ - a rise of £1½ on the day.

On the Unlisted Securities Market, shares of Micro Focus came in for profit-taking after their recent phenomenal run. The shares closed 50p down at 610p compared with 399p before the group's recent interim figures. These showed an unexpected profit of £747,000 against a loss of £308,000 last year.

The group has already confirmed it intends to come to market for more cash after the full-year figures in March. The shares were launched on the USM earlier this year at 170p and leapt 138p last week alone.

Race Electronics has confirmed it is having talks on mutual cooperation with Polly Peck (Holdings), the textile, packaging and mineral water group run by Mr Asil Nadir, the Turkish entrepreneur. This follows reports over the weekend that the two groups had

agreed to open a factory in Turkey to manufacture defence electronics.

Racal refused to comment on the reports, saying only that no specific projects had been identified.

Earlier this year Polly Peck signed an agreement with Thorn EMI to manufacture and market colour television sets on the Turkish mainland. But the deal led to strong criticism of Mr Nadir and calls for a fuller disclosure of Polly Peck's business affairs. It also succeeded in halving the share price from its high of £35½.

Broker Quilter Goodison has turned bearish of insurance brokers. In its latest survey of the sector, it says that insurance brokers are likely to underperform substantially the rest of the market, and it does not believe that they are an acceptable risk at present ratings.

The whole sector turned easier on the findings, with Hogg Robinson, down 1p at 109p, and Stewart Wrightson 1p lower at 235p, singled out for special criticism. Also getting the thumbs down were Willis Faber, 3p down at 530p, Sedgwick Group 1p down at 212p and C. E. Heath 1p down at 300p.

Mitchell Somers, the West Midlands engineering and forging group, has severed all its connections with its rival, E. B. Tomkins, by selling its entire stake of 5.91 million shares (22.9 per cent) in Tomkins for 30p a share, to raise £1.78m. Mitchell Somers bought the stake in 1978 at 23p a share. On news of the sale, Mitchell Somers rose 3p to 47p.

Sheraton Securities International, the property investment and development group, has announced a rights issue to raise £2.28m. The terms are on the basis of one-for-two at 10p a share, and the cash will be used to enlarge its development of commercial properties, either for sale or retention in the group's portfolio. The issue will be underwritten by the English Association Trust.

Sheraton, which made the transfer from rule 163 to the Unlisted Securities Market last year, lost 1p to 11½p.

Investors in industry, formerly IFCF, has sold part of its holding in Merrydown Wine, the East Sussex cider maker. It has sold 20,000 shares (or 7.7 per cent of the equity) but retains a further 265,000 shares (18 per cent). Shares of Merrydown closed unchanged at 335p.

Atlanta, Baltimore and Chicago Regional Investment Trust has withdrawn its offer for British General & Industrial Investment Trust following the agreed bid from the London Investment Trust. LIT's offer valued BIGIT at £13m, compared with the £11m ABC was willing to pay. ABC still owns around 7 per cent of BIGIT, unchanged at 245p.

Greenstock Properties, soon to be renamed Abaco Investments, slipped ½p to 21½p, having been at 19½p, on going ex-rights after the group's £4.81m rights issue. The new shares opened at 11½p premium and closed at 10½p.

ATHLETICS: SELECTORS' FINAL CHOICE

Coe and Ovett go solo at Helsinki

By Pat Butcher

Steve Ovett and Sebastian Coe were named to compete in only one event each in the forthcoming world championships in Helsinki when the final British selections were announced yesterday. Ovett has been retained for the 1,500 metres, on his assurance to the selectors that he will be fit for Helsinki in just over two weeks' time, after his injuries in the AAA 800 metres on Sunday.

After lengthy deliberations on Sunday evening, the selectors decided not to risk choosing Ovett for 800 metres as well, despite the immensely favourable impression that he had given in winning his 800 metres heat on Saturday night in a Helsinki qualifying time.

Coe was not even considered for the 1,500 metres to add to his previous 800 metres selection. After Coe's mile defeat by Steve Scott on Saturday evening, when he beat Graham Williamson, Coe indicated that he might still be prepared to consider an invitation to run in the 1,500 metres but the selectors took his public withdrawal from consideration last Tuesday as final.

Frank Dick, the director of coaching, said that he had deliberately spoken to Coe and his father, Peter, who coaches him, "to make sure I was not going to get caught in a ping-pong game. His father and Peter were very clear that 'under no circumstances' did he wish to be considered for the 1,500 metres".

The outcome, with Crum and Williamson chosen to



Moorcroft: greatest loss

accompany Ovett at 1,500m, is a return to what the selectors had originally decided, and then rescinded the previous week-end.

Coe will be accompanied in the 800 metres by Peter Elliott, the United Kingdom champion, and Garry Cook, who finished fourth in last year's European championship. Dr Bill Evans, the British Amateur Athletics Board chairman, agreed with the selectors' view that Coe and Ovett would have a better chance of success in the events for which they had been chosen than if they had run in both the 800m and 1,500m.

Wendy Sly, however, has been selected to run in two



Wells: selectors' faith

middle distance events in Helsinki. Mrs Sly has been chosen for the 1,500m and the 3,000m, although in contrast to Coe and Ovett she does not have any comparable domestic opposition vying for places in her two events, nor has she shown any sign of injury or vacillating form.

Alan Wells's capacity to run into form for big events like Helsinki was good enough for the selectors. His comeback to win Commonwealth gold medals after missing the European championships despite not having a qualifying time this year. His narrow defeat by Calvin Smith, the 100 metres world record holder, at the AAA championships on Saturday

suggests that he should be in top form at Helsinki on August 7. Justice has been finally done to Buster Watson, whose excellent sprinting form should have got him selected much earlier. But Cameron Sharp, who has not shown anything like last season's form, should consider himself fortunate to be selected for both sprints along with Wells and Watson. Another questionable choice is Julian Goater who dropped out of the 10,000 metres on Saturday when he saw he was not going to get a qualifying time for Helsinki. He has now been selected at 5,000 metres.

Britain's greatest loss through injury this season has of course been Dave Moorcroft, the world 5,000 metre record holder. A fit Moorcroft must have figured highly among Britain's medal hopes, and if Daly Thompson and Keith Connor, the outstanding favourites for decathlon and triple jump gold medals do get over their current injuries in time, Dr Evans's forecast of "between five and 10 medals" will begin to look optimistic.

FINAL GROUP: Men: 100m and 200m: L. Watson (Great Britain), C. Sharp (Great Britain), A. Wells (Great Britain), B. Watson (Great Britain), J. Goater (Great Britain), M. McCann (Great Britain), D. Thompson (Great Britain), K. Connor (Great Britain), G. Cook (Great Britain), P. Elliott (Great Britain), S. Ovett (Great Britain), S. Scott (Great Britain), W. Sly (Great Britain), C. Smith (Great Britain), D. Evans (Great Britain), J. Goater (Great Britain), M. McCann (Great Britain), D. Thompson (Great Britain), K. Connor (Great Britain), G. Cook (Great Britain), P. Elliott (Great Britain), S. Ovett (Great Britain), S. Scott (Great Britain), W. Sly (Great Britain), C. Smith (Great Britain), D. Evans (Great Britain), J. Goater (Great Britain), M. McCann (Great Britain), D. Thompson (Great Britain), K. Connor (Great Britain), G. Cook (Great Britain), P. Elliott (Great Britain), S. Ovett (Great Britain), S. Scott (Great Britain), W. Sly (Great Britain), C. Smith (Great Britain), D. 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RACING: FIRST DAY OF GOODWOOD

Morse Pip can justify local Cup confidence

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Morse Pip is my selection to win the William Hill Stewards' Cup which, true to tradition, is the centrepiece of the first day of Goodwood's big five-day summer meeting. Morse Pip will be an enormously popular winner locally if he does succeed because he is trained within sight of the course by Syd Woodman who was Ryan Price's head lad for nine years before he decided to break away and train himself in East Lavant in 1969.

All the knowhow that he accrued working for Price at Findon has helped to see him established as one of the shrewdest men in the game today. So when he really fancies one of his runners it is time to sit up and take notice.

Woodman first told me that Morse Pip would be just the type to win the Stewards' Cup back in May. When I reminded him of that conversation yesterday and inquired how his Stewards' Cup runner was, he retorted: "What do you mean my Stewards' Cup runner - my Stewards' Cup winner?"

Morse Pip was alive and kicking, rang out loud and clear: "I have had this race in mind for him all season and I am convinced that we now have him at his peak at precisely the right time." You cannot get much better encouragement than that.

The stable fief that Morse Pip would have three lengths behind Melinda in the Wokingham Stakes at Royal Ascot if he had been drawn on the same side of the course as her. Now at four and five, respectively, they have been drawn right alongside one another and Woodman is more than hopeful that his horse will get his revenge.

At 16-1 he looks much better value than Melinda at five or six-one. At Royal Ascot Morse

Pip had nothing to race with when the Wokingham came to the boil, but with Amorous, Little Starchy and Expressly Yours all drawn low, besides Melinda, he will certainly not lack company this time. Woodman envisages Morse Pip being able to track the quick starting Melinda and cutting her down in the sixth and last furlong.

Melinda will be attempting to emulate Calibana who was the last to bring off the Wokingham - Stewards Cup double. But she will be meeting Morse Pip on 7lb worse terms than at Ascot.

Morse Pip will be ridden by Ernie Johnson who has few peers among lightweight jockeys. Amorous, who finished sixth in the race won by Morse Pip at Salisbury earlier this month, is far from harshly treated with 7st 12lb when one recalls the way he beat Little Starchy and Mummy's Pleasure at Lingfield in June.

Roman Ruler is another whose chance cannot be overruled, especially if you happen to fancy Morse Pip. It was he who ran my selection so close at Salisbury. Roman Ruler is trained by Bill Wigham who masterminded Morse Pip's triumph in this same race in 1965.

Michael Stoute, who will be represented by Autumn Sunset, is another trainer to have already sent out a Stewards' Cup winner once. His was Alphadamus who was basically responsible for getting him going on the path to fame and fortune in only his second year. Autumn Sunset is likely to be far better suited to the distance of today's race judged on how he won at York in June than the shorter distance over which he was subsequently beaten at Ascot.

No matter how he fares with Autumn Sunset Willie Carson should not leave the course

empty-handed as he has a first-rate chance of winning the Gordon Stakes on Russian Roubles who looked a trifle unlucky at Royal Ascot when he came on the scene late to chase home Sharief Dancer.

With Sharief Dancer winning the Irish Derby and Hawa Bladi, Adonijah and Hot Touch, who finished third, fourth and fifth, respectively, all running well in their subsequent races that form has worked out really well.

Russian Roubles has also won since then but his opposition in the Welsh Derby was anything but testing. With By Decree and John French in opposition now we will have another opportunity to assess the colt that John Dunlop rates so highly on form ground.

In the New Ham Maiden Fillies Stakes Carson will be hoping for better things from Satiette who finished only eighth at Newmarket in the race won by Desirable for which she started favourite. But here I prefer Refill whose strong run into fourth place behind Chapel Cottage in the Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket pointed to her doing even better over further.

Paul Cook will ride Refill for Jan Baiding but he may also win the Oak Tree Stakes for the same stable on Silverdip, whose two victories this season have been over this distance. It is about this time of the year that Henry Cecil's horses blossom in tune with the considerable array of colourful garments that the deers, wisent, ever the sun shines, and Precocious will be long odds on to give the master of Warren Place a good start to the meeting by winning the Molecomb Stakes.



Russian Roubles: favoured by the fast conditions

Apprentices' incentive

A new European apprentice championship, featuring the leading apprentice jockeys from eight countries, and based on a "grand prix" with all the competitors riding against each other in 12 special races in each of the eight countries, is to be launched later this year under sponsorship of Long John Scotch Whisky, Dick Elder writes.

The first race of the series will be held at Phoenix Park on October 1, with the climax at Doncaster on November 5 with two races a limited handicap and a condition race. The continental rounds will be held in Denmark, Sweden, Spain, France, Italy and Germany.

The winner will receive the Long Golden Whip award, a trophy and an all-expenses paid working trip to a leading Australian stable. A pilot scheme was operated in a restricted form in France, Italy and Germany last year which was won by Billy Nerves from David Parnell Ireland. As a prize they both spent a month in New Zealand on a working holiday.

Skilling breaks leg

The jockey Jack Skilling broke his right leg when his mount Sweet Savage fell at Newcastle yesterday.

Skilling fractured the leg when Sweet Savage dived through the running rail at halfway in the Boulder Selling Handicap. The horse, thought to have suffered a heart attack, died a few minutes later.

Goodwood

Draw advantage: High numbers best. Total: Double 3.10, 4.10, Treble 2.30, 3.40 & 4.40.

[Television (BBC2) 2.0, 2.30, 3.10 and 4.40 races]

2.0 MOLECOMB STAKES (Group III; 2-Y-O; £13,228: 5f) (7 runners)

- 101 PRECOCIOUS (D) (Lord Taverish) H 5-0 - Piggott 3
- 102 CLAMTINE (D) (Cassidy) L 5-0 - W Carson 2
- 103 RUARDS (D) (Lester) M 5-0 - J French 1
- 104 ALPHADAMUS (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7
- 105 CLOAK AND ABANDON (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7
- 106 CLOAK AND ABANDON (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7
- 107 CLOAK AND ABANDON (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7
- 108 CLOAK AND ABANDON (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7
- 109 CLOAK AND ABANDON (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7
- 110 CLOAK AND ABANDON (D) (A. Richards) C 5-0 - B. Baker 7

2.30 OAK TREE STAKES (3-Y-O Fillies; £9,021: 7f) (7)

- 201 SILVERDIP (D) (G. Stoute) B 5-0 - P. Cook 4
- 202 SILVERDIP (D) (G. Stoute) B 5-0 - P. Cook 4
- 203 SILVERDIP (D) (G. Stoute) B 5-0 - P. Cook 4
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- 209 SILVERDIP (D) (G. Stoute) B 5-0 - P. Cook 4
- 210 SILVERDIP (D) (G. Stoute) B 5-0 - P. Cook 4

3.10 WILLIAM HILL STEWARD'S CUP (Handicap; £24,780: 6f) (23)

- 301 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8
- 302 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8
- 303 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8
- 304 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8
- 305 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8
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- 309 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8
- 310 DIAMOND CUT (D) (R. Swire) H 4-0 - R. Cochrane 8

3.40 RUSSIAN ROUBLES (D) (J. French) H 5-0 - J. French 1

4.10 NEW HAM STAKES (2-Y-O maidens; £4,548: 7f) (15)

- 401 NEW HAM STAKES (2-Y-O maidens; £4,548: 7f) (15)
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4.40 CHARLTON HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £4,288: 1m) (16)

- 440 CHARLTON HANDICAP (3-Y-O; £4,288: 1m) (16)
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5.15 STAPLETON STAKES (Dv 1 mile; £1,148: 1m 31.50y)

5.45 SEA PIGEON HANDICAP (2,885: 1m 6f 160y) (4)

6.15 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP (Apprentices; £944: 1m) (12)

6.45 HOW WATSON WON AGAIN! FULL OPEN REPORT IN COLOUR

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Samaranch: Soviet boycott 'unlikely'

Moscow (AP) - The president of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch, says the Soviet Union is unlikely to boycott the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics if NATO deploys new American missiles in Europe.

"I know the Soviet Union and I know sports in this country," Mr Samaranch, a former ambassador in Moscow for his native Spain, said at a Moscow news conference. "I know the word boycott does not exist in the Soviet Union."

"I also know very well that the Soviet Union always maintains that it is essential not to let politics mix with sport. Such kind of interference is strongly objected to by the USSR and I believe that a strong team of the USSR as well as of other countries can participate in this international sporting festival of youth."

Mr Samaranch conceded, however, that "the Olympic Games and the Olympic movement depend to a considerable degree on the political situation" and said that the situation "might influence negatively" the 1984 Games.

Reporting from Los Angeles last week, the IOC director, Monique Berlioux, as saying she and Mr Samaranch feared a Soviet boycott if American missiles are deployed in Europe later this year.

Mr Samaranch was in the Soviet capital for the opening of the eighth Soviet sports officials, including the Soviet Olympic Committee chairman, Marat Granov.

Answering other questions from Soviet and foreign reporters, Mr Samaranch said:

- That the IOC would help all national Olympic committees by paying the expenses of six athletes per country entered in the 1984 Los Angeles Games and paying costs for 1,000 judges and referees.
- That chess, highly popular in the Soviet Union, was unlikely ever to become more than a "demonstration sport" at the Olympics.
- That a commission due to produce a study after the 1984 Games would be likely to streamline their programme, but without "major radical change."
- That a request to send a commission to South Africa with a view to revoking that country's 1971 expulsion from the IOC would be considered only after the 1984 Olympics.
- That "four or five" new countries would be accepted into the Olympic movement by the IOC when it meets at the winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia, early next year.

Back in the USSR: Olympic answers from Samaranch

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Burkinshaw carries on waiting for Hoddle

Glenn Hoddle is keeping Tottenham Hotspur waiting on his plans for next season, Keith Burkinshaw, the Tottenham manager, had hoped to announce yesterday that Hoddle - a free agent at the end of this trial - had agreed to stay at Tottenham. "It's a disappointing fact that it's not all signed and sealed," Burkinshaw said.

"I believe Glenn still has one club to talk to, but I'm optimistic that he will stay with us," Chris Hughson, the Tottenham defender, is also expected to sign a new contract this week.

Brighton and Hove Albion, the FA Cup finalists who were relegated to the second division last season, are looking for new sponsors. British Caledonian Airways, who have provided around £180,000 for the club in the last three years, have decided not to extend the agreement.

Charlie George, the former Arsenal, Southampton and England forward is to have a one-on-one trial with Coventry City. George aged 33, who has been playing in Hong Kong, is expected to join Coventry for pre-season training.

Chris Nicholl, the 36-year-old Southampton and Northern Ireland central defender, joined Crimchey Town yesterday as assistant manager.

Bob Hanton, the 36-year-old Cardiff City forward has decided to retire after a career which has seen him play for Wolverhampton Wanderers, Bolton, Northampton, Walsley, Birmingham, Blackpool, Luton and Sheffield United.

Chris Smith stakes his international claim South Africa's early riser may wake to a new English dawn

The satisfaction felt by Chris Tavaré and Graeme Fowler at their double-century opening partnership in the first Test must have been matched by the gratitude of the selectors. They were able to defer a potentially embarrassing problem over the claims of Chris Smith, the Hampshire batsman for a place as an England opener.

The South Africa-born Smith, whose parents were born in England, is now eligible under the four-year residential qualification rule. There would be a certain irony if Smith were to fill a place previously occupied by Boycott and Gooch, who ruled themselves out of contention by playing in South Africa.

Although Smith's voice reveals his origins in every syllable, he has met the current requirement and says that, whatever might happen in cricket's volatile political climate, he is committed to a future in England, where he has now bought a house. "I had always set my sights on coming to England," he said. "I always wanted to play county cricket. I like living in the country and I made a commitment to England in 1980 and I will never go back on it."

If that suggests a certain single-mindedness it would not be a misleading impression, for behind Smith's Californian surfer's looks and laid-back manner, there is an impression to his craft. Even now in winter in South Africa - which he tries hard not to call home - he spends three hours a day practising against a bowling machine in the net in the back garden, although Robin now uses the machine from 6am until breakfast time while he works out in a gymnasium.

The early morning habit was set early, when his father took him as a 10-year old to Grayson Heath, the former captain of Natal, whose reputation as a coach is increasingly widespread. He was a close friend of the family but insisted that if he was going to coach the young Smith he had to prove his desire by attending nets in the early hours of the morning.

Smith did so and now pays tribute to Heath, a former school teacher and psychology lecturer as well as an excellent cricketer, for his help. The discipline and the coaching have clearly served both brothers well.

Acclaimed

If there is already embarrassment since Allan Lamb, another South African, is a current member of the team, the problems may be exacerbated in two years' time. Then Smith's younger brother, Robin, who has already been acclaimed by Gordon Greenidge as the best white right-handed batsman in the world, also becomes eligible to play for England.

That three of England's first five batsmen may then speak with a South African accent is highly speculative, but Chris Smith is pressing his own claim every time he goes to the wicket. "If I get near 2,000 runs for the season I hope the sheer weight of runs will make some impression when they pick the touring team for the winter," he said. As he is now less than 600 runs away, his target by half way through next month may well have increased to 2,500.

Such single-mindedness recalls Boycott, and the comparison is also frequently made on their approach to batting. On good wickets the similarities of style and reliability as run-getters are striking. Hampshire's captain, Nick Cook, is sure that Smith would be a prolific scorer in Test matches, saying that had Smith been picked for the Oval Test "it was even that he would have scored a century."

The comparison with the sometimes notoriously slow Boycott is, of course, a compliment containing something of a double edge. Smith, nevertheless, is understandably pleased to be linked with one of the greatest practitioners of batsmanship. "I suppose the way I play my cricket is similar. I tend to occupy the crease for long periods, and I have got the concentration and the defensive technique to do so. I cut and drive a lot, too."

There have also been suspicions over the years that Boycott is not the best player in the world of fast, short-pitched bowling, and that is the one area too where reservations may exist about Smith's potential as an England opener.

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Flattering



Chris Smith: dedicated craftsman

It is not a reservation which can be applied to Robin: the younger Smith, who combines the build of a Bolton full back circa 1950 with the face of a subaltern at the Somme, pounces upon anything short of a length with almost murderous relish. Anyone who saw the flat six which flew into the bushes at Uxbridge as he despatched a bouncer will have no doubt about Smith's ability. For a 19-year old it was quite breathtaking.

"I can't pull or hook like him because I don't see the ball so early. He picks it up fantastically quickly," Chris said. "I am not sure that you can say that he is the best batsman already, although it was very flattering that Gordon did, but I have certainly never seen another 19-year old like him. I can only compare him to Barry Richards. He is not as elegant perhaps, but he is a very efficient batsman. He is so strong that even his mishts go for four."

"He is very mature. He looks older than me - some say he acts older, too - and I think he has been hardened in Currie Cup cricket, which is very tough with a lot of verbal abuse."

Certainly unless disaster strikes it is difficult to see anyone preventing Robin claiming a Test place. His elder brother's claim is a strong one, too, and if he gets his 2,000 runs there will seem to be no good cricketing reason for his exclusion from the tour of New Zealand and Pakistan.

Peter Ball

Final University cricket averages

Oxford										Cambridge									
Batting										Batting									
	Inns	Not Out	Total	Runs	Avg	100s	50s	4s	6s		Inns	Not Out	Total	Runs	Avg	100s	50s	4s	6s
R P Moulding	13	3	448	387	29.80	1	4	127	1	R J Boyd-Miles	19	8	574	302	15.89	0	5	12	1
A J T Miller	15	3	527	447	37.25	1	4	127	1	T S Curtis	20	8	574	302	15.89	0	5	12	1
J R Turner	15	3	527	447	37.25	1	4	127	1	K Hodgson	20	8	574	302	15.89	0	5	12	1
A H K Small	15	3	527	447	37.25	1	4	127	1	R J Pollock	20	8	574	302	15.89	0	5	12	1
M D Pether	15	3	527	447	37.25	1	4	127	1	T A Cottrell	20	8	574	302	15.89	0	5	12	1
J C Verrill	15	3	527	447	37.25	1	4	127	1	P G Rotherham	20	8	574	302	15.89	0	5	12	1
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also on page 22

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R. L. E. LEWIS

Secretary.

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